はがねのれんきんじゅつし

鋼の錬金術師

FULLMETAL ALCHEMIST

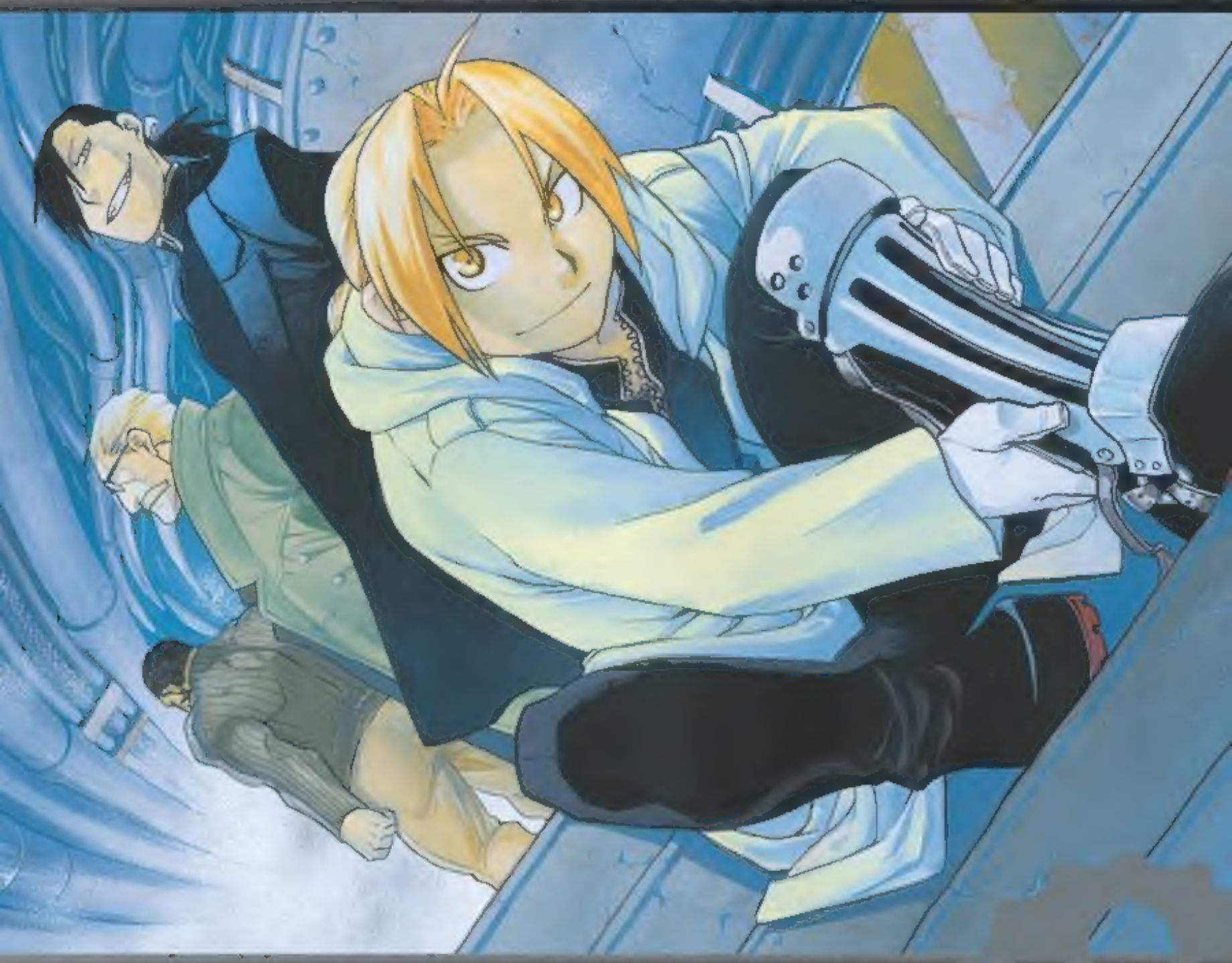
荒川 弘

Hiromu Arakawa

20

GANGAN COMICS

FULLMETAL ALCHEMIST™



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Story and art by
Hiromu Arakawa

Recently, many of the items in my work space that have gone through good and bad times with me are breaking down, one after another. The pot that my assistants and I use to cook our lunch, the stereo, the ergonomic chair, etc.... You fools!! How dare you give up before the journey is done?! (sob)

—Hiromu Arakawa, 2008

Born in Hokkaido (northern Japan), Hiromu Arakawa first attracted national attention in 1999 with her award-winning manga *Stray Dog*. Her series *Fullmetal Alchemist* debuted in 2001 in Square Enix's monthly manga anthology *Shonen Gangan*.

FULLMETAL
ALCHEMIST

鋼の錬金術師

FULLMETAL ALCHEMIST

20

荒川弘

HIROMU ARAKAWA

鋼の錬金術師
FULLMETAL ALCHEMIST

CHARACTERS
FULLMETAL ALCHEMIST

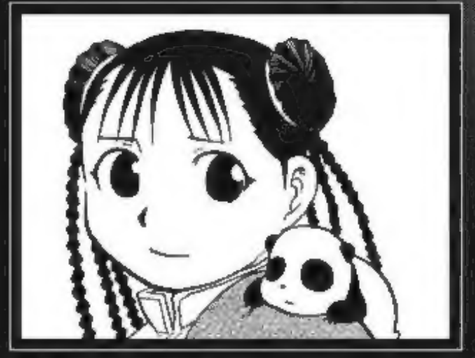
□ウィンリィ・ロックベル
Winry Rockbell

□スカー
Scar

□オリヴィエ・ミラ・アームストロング
Olivier Mira Armstrong

□キング・ブラッドレイ
King Bradley

□ヴァン・ホーエンハイム
Van Hohenheim



□メイ・チャン
May Chang

□アルフォンス・エルリック
Alphonse Elric

□エドワード・エルリック
Edward Elric

□アレックス・ルイ・アームストロング
Alex Louis Armstrong

□ロイ・マスタング
Roy Mustang

OUTLINE
FULLMETAL ALCHEMIST

Using a forbidden alchemical ritual, the Elric brothers attempted to bring their dead mother back to life. But the ritual went wrong, consuming Edward Elric's leg and Alphonse Elric's entire body. At the cost of his arm, Edward was able to graft his brother's soul into a suit of armor. Equipped with mechanical "auto-mail" to replace his missing limbs, Edward becomes a state alchemist in the hopes of finding a way to restore their bodies. Their search embroils them in a deadly conspiracy that threatens to take the innocence, if not the lives, of everyone involved.

For decades, the nation of Amestris has slowly expanded its borders into the shape of an enormous transmutation circle with the Homunculi's "Father" at its center. Now the circle is complete and calculated bloody wars at key points sanctify the circle for a final transmutation. Long ago, when a similar ceremony was performed in the city of Cselkcess, thousands of souls were lost so that the original Homunculus could be free. Only one person survived the massacre–Van Hohenheim, Ed and Al's father. Now this Philosopher's Stone in the shape of a man might hold the key to stopping the Homunculi before an even greater massacre consumes the world…

CONTENTS

Chapter 79: Bug Bite 7

Chapter 80: The Prodigal Father Returns 39

Chapter 81: A Full Recovery 75

Chapter 82: Family by Spirit 111

Chapter 83: The Promised Day 153

Extra 189

Preview 190

TRULY MAGNI-FICENT!

A RESOUNDING VICTORY FOR AMESTRIS, EVEN **WITHOUT** THE PRESENCE OF MAJOR GENERAL ARMSTRONG.

HM...

HA HA HA HA!

APPARENTLY, FORT BRIGGS DESERVES ITS REPUTATION FOR BEING ABLE TO FUNCTION AS A SINGLE UNIT AFTER ALL!

SL
UMP!

CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP

CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP

WELL DONE, WELL DONE.

THE VERY DEFINITION OF AN INSTANT VICTORY.

I THOUGHT THAT WE COULD HOLD OUT FOR A BIT LONGER, BUT APPARENTLY I GAVE DRACHMA TOO MUCH CREDIT.

THIS IS NOT WHAT WE WERE PROMISED, KIMBLEE!!

YES, I KNOW... EVEN I HADN'T BEEN INFORMED THAT THEIR WEAPONS WERE SO MUCH MORE POWERFUL THAN OURS.

THAT'S NOT WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT!!

WE'VE BEEN PLANNING THIS ATTACK WITH ALLIES IN THE AMESTRIAN MILITARY COMMAND FOR YEARS! THEY PROMISED— YOU PROMISED—THAT WHEN THE TIME CAME, THERE WOULD BE DISSENSION IN THE BRIGGS' RANKS!

BUT THERE WASN'T THE SLIGHTEST BIT OF CONFUSION TO BE SEEN WITHIN THE FORT!!

AND NOW, THIS IS THE RESULT!!

THE FACT THAT WE WEREN'T HIT AFTER WITHSTANDING SUCH A FIERCE ATTACK...

...MUST MEAN THAT YOU AND I ARE THE SEEDS THAT WERE CHOSEN FOR GREATER THINGS.

WHAT ?!

THERE'S NO REASON TO BE SO UPSET.

VREEEEE

SHUT UP, DAMN Y-!

TCH!

YOU SHOULD REJOICE IN THE FACT THAT YOU ARE ONE OF THE CHOSEN...

splat

BOOOM!!

HE DIED IN THE MIDDLE OF OUR CONVERSATION.

HOW RUDE.

MR. KIM-BLEE.

CLA

CK

RE-TREAT !

PLEASE COME WITH US.

DAMN T' WHAT WAS THE POINT OF COMING HERE?

GRIN

THOOM

WHOA ?!

RUMBL RUMBL

OH CRAP ...

AVA-LANCHE -

OOOM...

WHAT WAS THAT ?!

WE DIDN'T FIRE, DID WE?

Chatter Chatter

BUT WHAT WAS THAT EXPLO-SION?

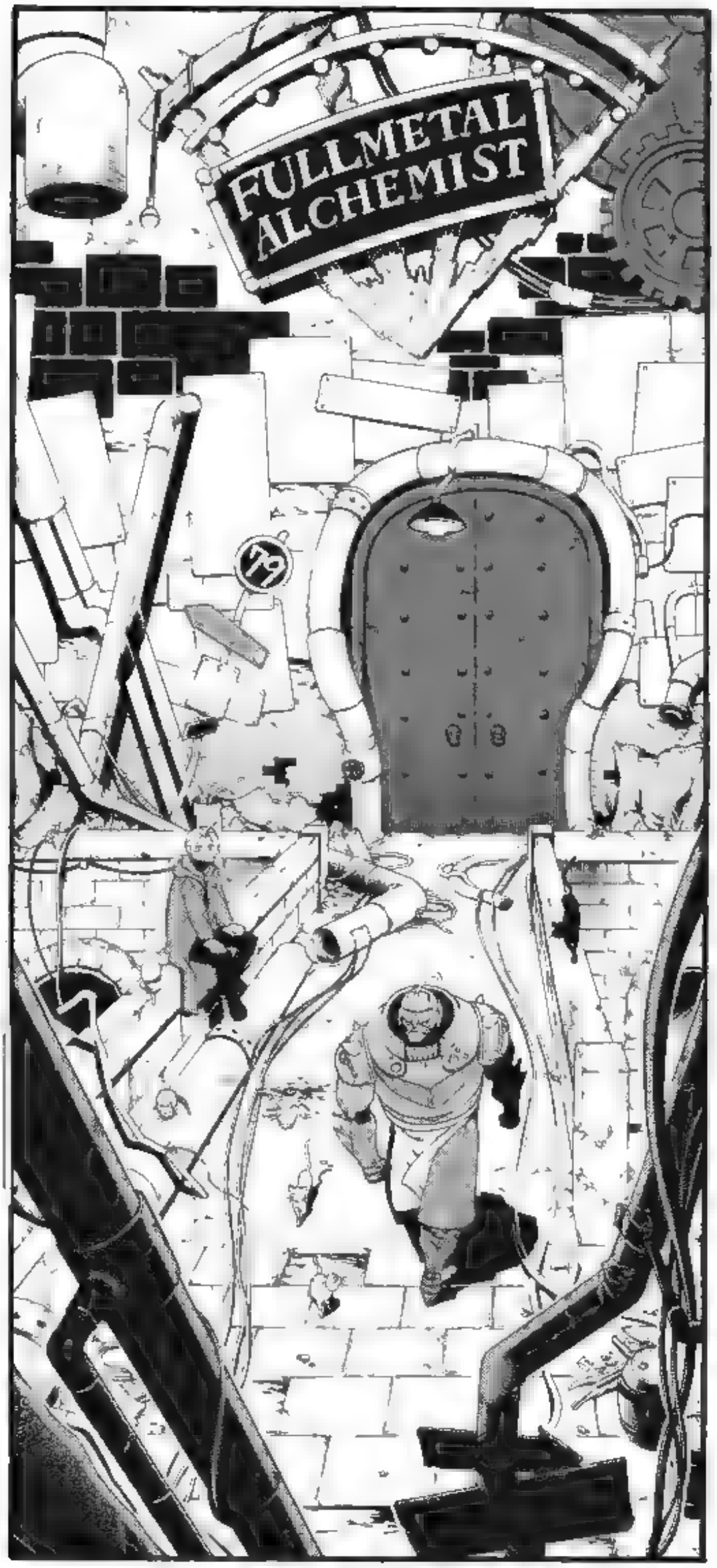
WELL, *THAT* FINISHED THEM OFF, SIR.

RMBL

Whoa!

Chapter 79

Bug Bite



THE DOCTOR?

HE LEFT IN THE MORNING TO GATHER KINDLING.

OKAY.

HE SAID HE WAS GOING UP TO THE GROVE ON THE HILLTOP.

HE'S AN ISHBALAN TRAVELER FROM ANOTHER TOWN.

OH, UH... HIM?

WHO'S *HE*?

MR. ZAN-PANO

OH.

THEN I'LL LOOK FOR HIM THERE.

YOU CAME TO THE RIGHT PLACE, SIR.

HE CAME HERE TO GET TREATMENT FROM THE DOCTOR.

OH, OKAY!

GRIN

REAL-LY?

CAN'T WAIT TO MEET HIM!

THE DOC WILL HAVE YOU PATCHED UP IN NO TIME, AND HE DOESN'T CHARGE A THING! HE'S A REALLY NICE MAN!

YOU SHOULD SEE HIM RIGHT AWAY!

THE DOCTOR HELPED ME GET BETTER TOO!

OW OW OW...

NGGH!

EVEN A DOCTOR HAS TO LOOK AFTER HIS OWN BODY SOMETIMES, OLD MAN.

ZING ZING

SOMETIMES MY BACK JUST WON'T DO WHAT I TELL IT TO.

OH BOTHER ..

THERE YOU ARE.

DID YOU COME TO GIVE US A HAND?

SHF SHF

HUH?

HEY!

SHF SHF SHF SHF SHF

YOU CAN STOP NOW, ZANPAKO.

HE WAS HOPING YOU COULD TREAT HIM.

JUST A... UM... TRAVELER I MET.

WA'T... WHO'S THAT?

ZA SH

LONG TIME NO SEE. LIKE WHAT YOU DID WITH THE FACE.

WHAT'S UP, DOC?

YOUR THIRD-RATE ACTING'S NOT FOOLING ANYONE.

!!

TMD

DID YOU REALLY THINK YOU COULD HIDE FROM US FOREVE—

BUT

YOU SPINE-LESS WORM.

BUT

BUT

WHA...

WHAT THE HELL IS THIS ?!!

?!

WHA

ZAN-PANO...

YOU BAS-TARD !!

EEEP

CRAP!

OH CRAP

crnch

crnch

crnch

IT WAS OUR PLAN FROM THE VERY BEGINNING TO LURE YOU HERE.

HEH HEH... THIRD-RATE ACTING, HUH? FOOLED ***YOU*** WELL ENOUGH.

ALL RIGHT, SO NOW THAT YOU'VE GOT ME OUT HERE...

ZASH

..YOU THREE WORMS DON'T HONESTLY THINK YOU STAND A CHANCE AGAINST—

WHAT THE ?!

POW!!

KNOWING HOW CRUEL AND RUTHLESS YOU ARE...

...I WAS CERTAIN THAT ONCE YOU LEARNED THAT I WAS STILL ALIVE, YOU'D COME TO BULLY ME AGAIN!

I CALL IT THE LAND MINE TECHNIQUE. AFTER ALL, ALCHEMY IS CONSTANTLY EVOLVING.

IT'S A NEW STYLE OF TRANS-MUTATION.

SH
LNKK

!!!
APAPAPA

THERE'S NO WAY THAT ALCHEMY LIKE THIS COULD EXIST...

HUH?

HOW THE HELL ARE YOU DO-ING THAT ?!

T HOK

SON OF A-!!

WHY... YOU...

IF THESE ARE LAND MINES, THEN I CAN EASILY AVOID THEM BY STEPPING IN YOUR FOOTPRINTS.

THIS ENTIRE AREA IS COVERED WITH THEM.

YOU JUST CAN'T SEE THEM BECAUSE THEY'RE HIDDEN BENEATH THE SNOW.

I FORGOT TO MENTION— THE LAND MINES ARE DESIGNED TO REACT ONLY TO HOMUNCULI.

HOW DOES IT FEEL TO BE BULLIED BY THOSE WHOM YOU TREATED LIKE WORMS?

WELL?

HEH HEH HEH...

WE WERE REALLY LUCKY THAT THE SNOWFALL COVERED UP ALL EVIDENCE OF OUR PLAN!

FZZ

IT HAS NO IDEA THAT IT'S JUST LONG-DISTANCE TRANS-MUTATION.

OUR PLAN IS WORK-ING.

WHY COULDN'T YOU SCUM JUST DO AS YOU WERE TOLD?!

SNIK

glorp meki

DON'T THINK YOU'VE WON YET!!!

YOU WORMS !!!

glurp meki

!!

BUT

BUT

W...

BUT

WHY YOU ...

WHAT THE HELL IS THAT?!

AND I THOUGHT *WE* WERE BIG!! THIS IS INSANE!

SWISH

!!

SLAM

!

TMP

SLAM

VIP VIP VIP

?!!

HE'S PRETTY FAST FOR A FAT ASS.

TCH !

TH... THANKS!

PHEW.. THAT WAS TOO CLOSE.

OUCH

SHNK

SHNK

RRGH ?!

WHY YOU ...

HEH HEH.

NEVER UNDER-ESTIMATE SCUM.

LEAP

ALL RIGHT.

IS THAT THE BEST YOU CAN DO?! BRING IT ON!!

FOOLS !!

krack

THEN HOW ABOUT THIS?

GAB-OO!!

WE DID IT!!

KA

THO

BZT BZT FZT

RRGH...

GGGH...

GLEEM

OM

O

SHL

?!

GLARK

DOC-
TOR
!!

HA
HAH!!
I GOT
YOU!!

GLOOK

UH-UH.
COME
ANY
CLOSER...

...AND I'LL
SNAP HIM
IN HALF.

I
WON'T
LET
YOU
DO IT...

gr
gr
gr gr gr

gugh!

krak
krak

SNAP

OOPS!
I BROKE
SOME-
THING.

...THAT IF
YOU TRIED
ANYTHING
FUNNY I
WOULD
DESTROY
AN ENTIRE
VILLAGE?

DIDN'T
I TELL
YOU,
DOCTOR
...

AND NOW,
I'M GOING TO
HAVE TO
TEACH YOU
DISOBEDIENT
WORMS A
LESSON.

Ar-gh!

WHAK

I FOLLOWED ORDERS...

I CREATED PHILOSOPHER'S STONES...

I BECAME A MONSTER...

...AND I'VE HATED MYSELF EVER SINCE.

hyff

mmm

katf

katf

Pant

Pant

Pant

I...

ARE YOU STILL TRYING TO RESIST?

HOW FOOLISH.

gahk

♪

IF YOU STILL HAVE ENOUGH ENERGY TO CHATTER ON AND ON, MAYBE I SHOULD SHUT YOU UP.

CRN IT, DOC.

HUH?

I'M ANGRY AT MYSELF FOR NOT HAVING DONE ANYTHING ABOUT T...

BUT NOW ...

...I OBLITERATE THAT ISHBALAN SLUM OVER THERE?

HOW ABOUT...

I THINK I'LL TAKE SOME OF THE HEALTHIER WOMEN AND CHILDREN BACK TO CENTRAL TO BE USED AS INGREDIENTS FOR PHILOSOPHER'S STONES.

NO !!

BUT JUST DESTROY-ING IT WOULDN'T BE VERY INTEREST-ING.

!

ARE YOU STILL MAKING THOSE INFERNAL THINGS?!

YOU BAS-TARD ...

I CAN'T. ♡

THEY'VE ALL BEEN TURNED INTO PHILOSOPHER'S STONES.

FREE THEM?

FREE MY OLD TEAM !!

FREE THOSE RE-SEARCH-ERS...

WHAT ARE YOU SO WORKED UP ABOUT?

YOU'VE MADE *PLENTY* OF PHILO-SOPHER'S STONES IN THE PAST, HAVEN'T YOU?

WHA ...?

ALL OF MY TEAM ...?

USING PEOPLE'S LIVES!!

YOU'RE RIGHT.

I SACRIFICED THE LIVES OF COUNTLESS PEOPLE TO MAKE THE STONES.

...I KNOW MORE ABOUT MAKING PHILOSOPHER'S STONES THAN ANYONE ELSE IN THIS COUNTRY.

AND YES...

BUT BECAUSE I KNOW HOW TO *MAKE* THEM...

...I ALSO KNOW HOW TO DESTROY THEM !!!

GYAAAAH!

VOMIT

WHAT THE ...?!

?!

THM THM THM THM THM

THAT'S WHERE THE NICE DOCTOR IS!

THE HILLTOP "

PLOP

GLUK GLUK

THM THM

AAH

THM

AAA

THM

AA

GAH

ARGH

THM

THM

GLO RP

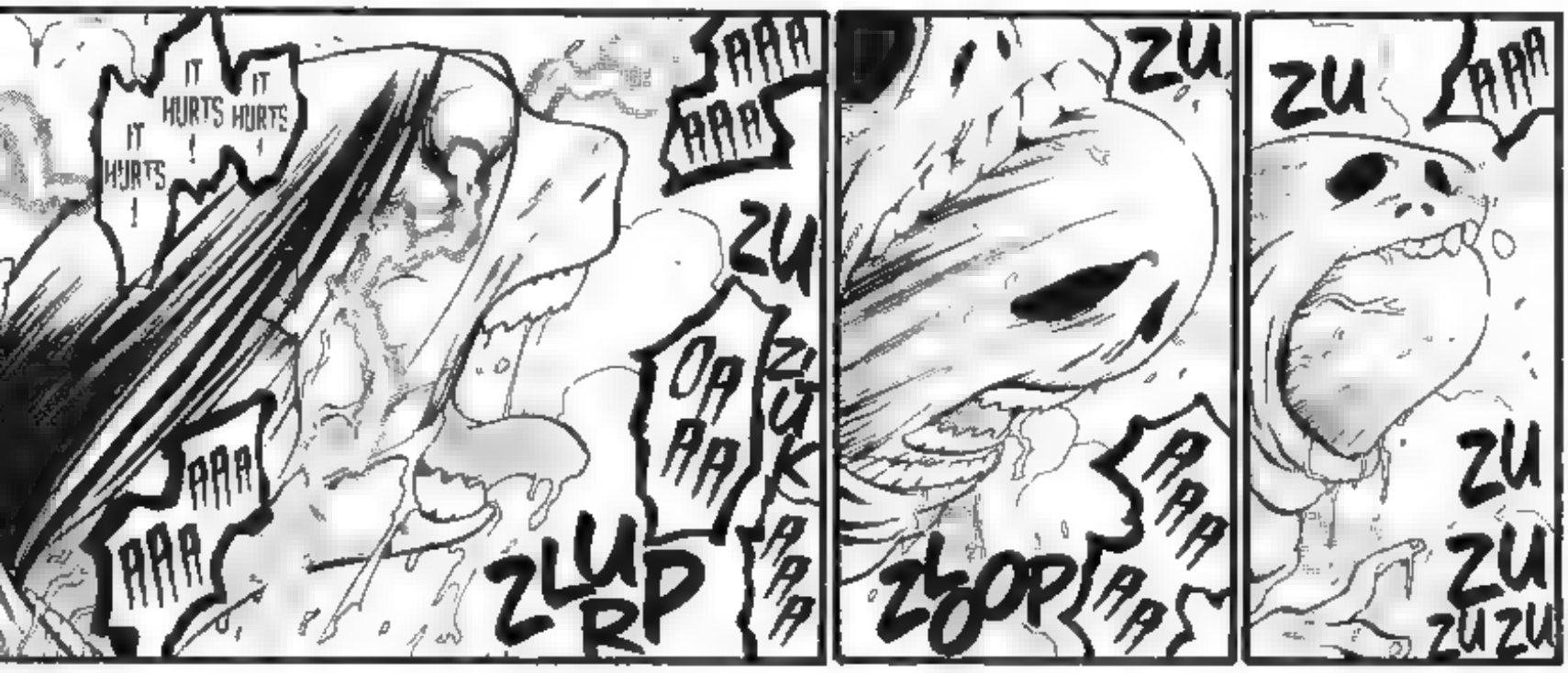
HELP ME!

WAH!

AAAH!

WUMP

SHOOP
AAAAAAAAAAAA
GLURP
AAA
AAA


IT HURTS !
IT HURTS !
IT HURTS !
AAA
AAA
ZU
OPA
PA
ZUKA
AAA
ZLURP
AAA
ZU
AAA
ZBOP
ZU
ZU
ZUZU

YOU BAS-TARDS !
I CAN NEVER BE DEFEATED BY YOU LOWER LIFE-FORMS...

HOW ...?
NO...
HOW COULD I, ENVY, BE..?
HOW CAN THIS BE..?
GLOOP

...LOOK-ING DOWN ON ME...

...ARE...

EVEN YOU, CHI-MERA...

NO..

YOU...

LOO...

LOOO...

LOOK-ING...

DON'T LOOK

..NT ME..

HELP...

BLU RP

DON'T LOOK DOWN ON ME, HUMANS !!!

EEEP!

FSHH!!

YOU WORMS

DON'T LOOK AT ME...

PUNT

WHAT A LAUGH!

HAH!

NOW YOU'RE THE WORM!

!!!!!!!!!!

EEE!

SO THIS PUNY THING IS WHAT'S BEEN CAUSING US SO MUCH GRIEF?

DON'T LOOK AT ME.

YOU VER-MIN.

YOU SCUM.

DON'T LOOK AT ME.

SQUIRM

SQUIRM

SQUIRM

POF!

EEE!

koff

gehoff

ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

WE'VE WON...

...MAR-COH.

THIS AIN'T IT.

NOPE.

HA HA...

NOW YOUR FACE LOOKS EVEN WORSE THAN BEFORE.

IT SURE FEELS BREEZY INSIDE MY MOUTH.

IT'S NO USE, DOCTOR.

IN THIS SNOW IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO FIND THE TOOTH THAT GOT KNOCKED OUT OF YOUR MOUTH.

THAT'S ALL RIGHT. NO NEED TO LOOK FOR IT.

I'M SORRY THAT I HAD YOU PUT YOUR LIVES AT RISK FOR MY REPENTANCE.

AND YOU GUYS...

THANKS FOR STOP-PING THE BLEED-ING.

YOU'RE WEL-COME!

I DIDN'T EXPECT IT WOULD TURN INTO SUCH A HUGE MONSTER!

EEP!

EE!

YOU TOLD US TO STAY OUT OF THE WAY AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE...

YEAH... WELL...

UH-HUH.

BUT I WAS STILL SWEATING LIKE HELL.

THANK YOU.

THAT'S THE LITTLE GIRL THAT SNUCK INTO THE BASE UNDER CENTRAL CITY!

HEY!

Chapter 80

The Prodigal Father Returns

ARE YOU HURT, MR. MARCOH ?!

NO, I'M NOT HURT TOO BADLY, BUT I THREW OUT MY HIP...

I'M IN A PITIFUL STATE... ALL BANGED UP LIKE THIS...

YOU SHOULDN'T BE SO RECK-LESS.

WHEN I FIRST MET YOU, I SUDDENLY REMEMBERED THE ROCKBELL COUPLE.

AND I REALIZED HOW COWARDLY IT WAS FOR ME TO BE SWEPT ALONG BY OTHERS AND NOT DO ANYTHING WHEN THERE WAS SOMETHING I COULD DO TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

I KNEW IT WAS RECKLESS, BUT I WANTED TO DO SOMETHING.

OKAY.

BUT STILL, PLEASE TRY NOT TO BE RECKLESS.

HMM... SO THIS IS A HOMUN-CULUS.

YOU LITTLE ...

HEH HEH HEH! THAT'S WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU TRY TO DEFY US HUMANS.

WHY, YOU ...

...WORM !!

EEP!

FLICK

SLIP

?!

Aa aiieeeee!!

CHOMP

!!!

HELP ME...

NNNGH...

MR. YOKI ?!

ZU ZU ZU ZU ZU ZU

GLORP GLORP

MUWA HA HA!! I'VE TAKEN OVER THIS PATHETIC HUMAN'S BODY!!

ZU ZU ZU ZU

AAAAAAAH!

glik

glik

blurk

DO WHAT I SAY IF YOU VALUE YOUR FRIEND'S LIFE!!

!!

YEAH, IT'S NOT LIKE HE'S *OUR* FRIEND.

FINE, DO WHATEVER YOU WANT.

IT'S UP TO ME, ENVY, WHETHER THIS ONE LIVES OR DIES!!

ARE YOU SERIOUS ?!!!

I FEEL SO VIOLATED! YOU MONSTER!

MY BODY WON'T DO WHAT I TELL IT!

jigga jigga

YOUR BODY IS AT MY COMMAND, HUMAN SCUM!!

IT'S USELESS TO RESIST !!

HEEEY!!

WE'LL NEVER FORGET YOU!

YOU'RE SO BRAVE TO SACRIFICE YOURSELF LIKE THIS.

POOR MR. YOKI. WE BARELY KNEW YOU.

sniffle

Ga

W-WHY ISN'T ANYONE TRYING TO SAVE THIS GUY?!

ISN'T HE THEIR FRIEND ?!

h!

DON'T TURN YOUR HEAD AWAY, DAMMIT !!!

SPURN

YOU'RE MY FRIEND, RIGHT? AREN'T YOU?! RIGHT?!

MR. SCAR !!

IF YOU CONTINUE TO INTERFERE, **WE WILL DESTROY HIS BODY AND YOU ALONG WITH IT.**

URGH

WE NO LONGER CARE ABOUT HOW OTHERS WILL JUDGE OUR ACTIONS.

YOUR TACTICS WON'T CUT IT ANYMORE, ENVY.

!

GOOD-NESS... WAS SO NER-VOUS...

I-I'M NOT VERY GOOD AT LYING...

Pat

NICE ACT NG.

IT CAME OFF ?!

IT CAME OFF.

BADUM BADUM

DRM-MIT...

GLURK

SWOON

OH, AL YOU'RE SO COOL

OH COME ON, WE WERE **ACQUAIN-TANCES** BUT NEVER **FRIENDS.**

WUAAAAN

IT'S OVER!! I'M ENDING OUR FRIEND-SHIP!!

DAMN IT! YOU BASTARDS AREN'T MY FRIENDS ANYMORE!!

WHAT ARE THEY PLOTTING ?

WHAT'S GOING ON OVER THERE?

DAM-MIT...

BIG BROTHER ?

I THINK HE'S IN BRIGGS.

HEY, UGLY! IS THAT FULLMETAL SQUIRT AROUND HERE SOMEWHERE?

THEY'RE NOTHING BUT A BUNCH OF SCHEMING VERMIN...

HUH ?

I HEARD THAT HE'S MISSING.

IS THAT TRUE?

HE'S REALLY NOT HERE?

ED'S MISS-ING...

OH NO...

HOLD ON, WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?!

WHAT HAP-PENED TO BIG BROTHER?!

...IS THAT THE MILITARY LOST TRACK OF HIM AFTER THE MINE SHAFT IN BUZCOUL COLLAPSED.

ALL I KNOW ...

I'M SURE YOU'RE RIGHT...

I...

Y-YEAH.

I'M SURE HE GOT TO SAFETY SOMEHOW.

D-DON'T WORRY, WINRY. YOU KNOW HOW BIG BROTHER IS.

glurgle...

HEH. DUMB-ASS!

EVEN IF I DID KNOW SOMETHING, WHY WOULD I TELL YOU? I'LL BE *KILLED* ONCE I TELL YOU WHAT YOU WANT TO KNOW.

BANG

BANG

TALK, YOU INSECT SCUM!! TALK!!

YEEOOOW!!! AAGH!!

YOU GO, ZANPANO!! SHOW IT WHO'S BOSS!

WHAT ARE YOUR BUDDIES IN CENTRAL SCHEMING?!

ALL RIGHT, BUG BOY, THEN LET'S TALK ABOUT WHAT YOU *DO* KNOW.

I DON'T KNOW.

snub

ANYWAY, OUR FIRST PRIORITY SHOULD BE GETTING OUT OF HERE.

YOU'RE RIGHT.

LITTLE

WHY, YOU...

HUMPH!

THANKS FOR EVERY-THING.

FARE-WELL.

YES.

ARE YOU REALLY LEAVING?

THE ENEMY KNOWS THAT WE'RE HERE. IT'S NOT SAFE TO STAY.

MAY ISHBALA BLESS YOU.

TAKE CARE.

GOOD.

I HAVEN'T LOST CONSCIOUS-NESS AT ALL LATELY.

HOW HAVE YOU BEEN FEELING, AL?

WELL? WHERE SHOULD WE HEAD FIRST?

FORT BRIGGS IS TOO DANGEROUS, AND BIG BROTHER IS MISSING, SO...

...

YEAH, SO KEEP ON KEEPING IT TOGETHER, BIG GUY.

THAT'S GOOD. CARRYING YOU IS A REAL PAIN.

HA HA... SORRY ABOUT THAT.

ALL RIGHT.

I SNUCK N THROUGH THE YOUSWELL COAL MINE.

YOUS-WELL, HM?

MAY.

YES?

WHAT ROUTE DID YOU TAKE TO GET INTO THIS COUNTRY?

NOW WAIT JUST A MINUTE !!!

WHA ...

TAKE THIS THING AND GO BACK TO YOUR COUNTRY.

BUT IF I LEFT NOW...

YEAH! WHY NOW? AFTER WE FINALLY DECIPHERED THE RESEARCH NOTES AND REALIZED THAT THE PURIFICATION ARTS ARE THE KEY TO SAVING AMESTRIS!

PERHAPS IT IS ENOUGH TO SAVE YOUR CLAN.

IT'S NOT EXACTLY THE IMMORTALITY YOUR EMPEROR WANTS, BUT IT IS THE REMNANT OF A HOMUNCULUS THAT WOULDN'T DIE NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES WE TRIED TO KILL IT.

...ARE YOU PREPARED TO EXPLAIN THAT YOU COULDN'T HELP THEM BECAUSE YOU GOT CAUGHT UP IN THE PROBLEMS OF ANOTHER COUNTRY?

IF YOUR CLAN LOSES THE POWER STRUGGLE ...

REMEMBER WHY YOU CAME HERE IN THE FIRST PLACE.

IT'S ALL RIGHT, MAY. YOU DON'T HAVE TIME TO BE INVOLVED IN THE AFFAIRS OF ANOTHER COUNTRY.

!

GO.

WE, THE PEOPLE OF THIS COUNTRY, WILL SOMEHOW TAKE CARE OF ITS PROBLEMS ON OUR OWN.

GO EAST FROM HERE AND YOU WILL RUN INTO YOUSWELL.

THANK YOU...

...FOR EVERY-THING!

HUG...

MR. AL...

EVEN THOUGH I STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND THE PURIFICATION ARTS, I'M REALLY GRATEFUL FOR ALL YOU DID TO TRY AND TEACH ME

MAY...

Well, well!

Oh my!

!...!...!!

MR. AL...

GLOMP

Oh my!!

Oh!

TAKE CARE.

I KNOW.

My my

!!

SOB SOB

THANK YOU!!

THANK YOU, EVERY-BODY!!

SO I GUESS YOU'LL MISS HAVING HER AROUND, HUH?

WHY ARE YOU SMILING?

HO HO

SHE'S GONE

SHE SURE WAS LIVELY.

UH...

WHERE ARE WE GOING NEXT?

SO?

Riches to Rags

THAT DOESN'T MAKE ANY SENSE!

Rags to Riches

REVERSE CINDER ELLA STORY?

IF YOU PLAY YOUR CARDS RIGHT, I COULD BE LIKE A REVERSE CINDER-ELLA STORY.

MAY'S A ROYAL PRINCESS OF XING, RIGHT?

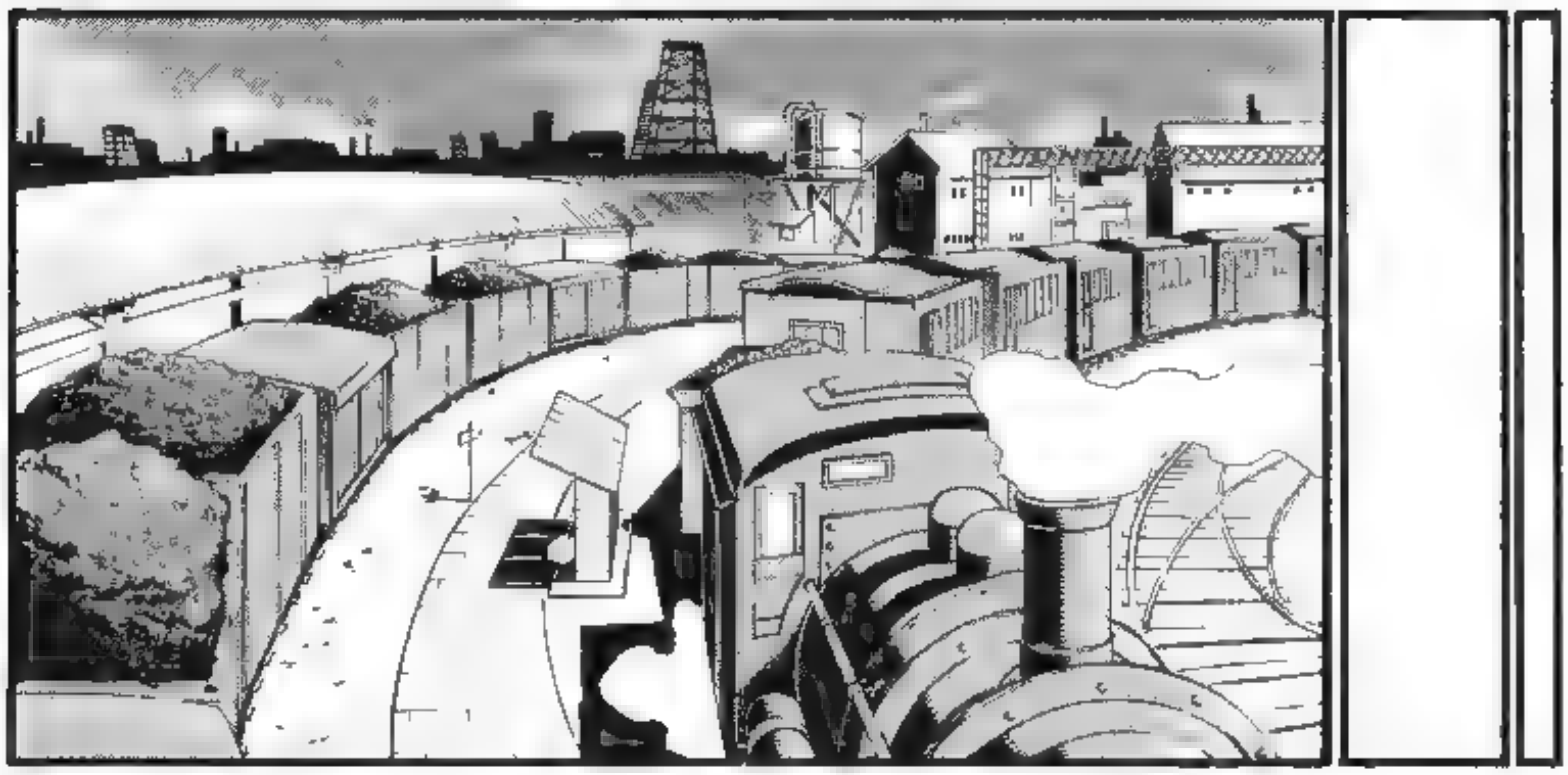
squeal

YUP.

THERE'S A CITY THAT'S BEEN ON MY MIND.

OH!! I WAS JUST THINKING ABOUT THAT, AND...

WHAT? IS THERE SOME PLACE YOU WANT TO GO?



YOUSWELL
EAST GATE

tmp
tmp
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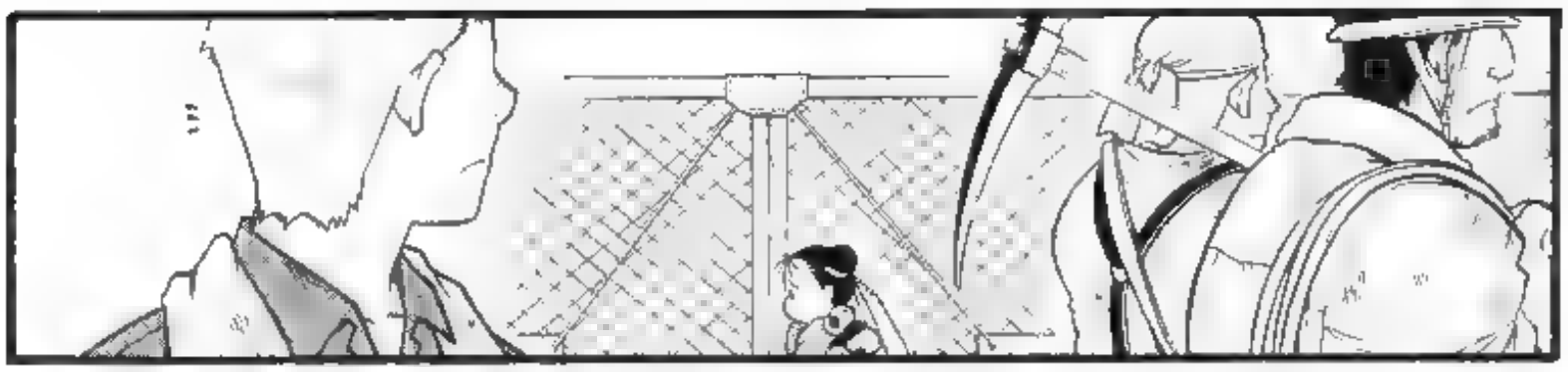
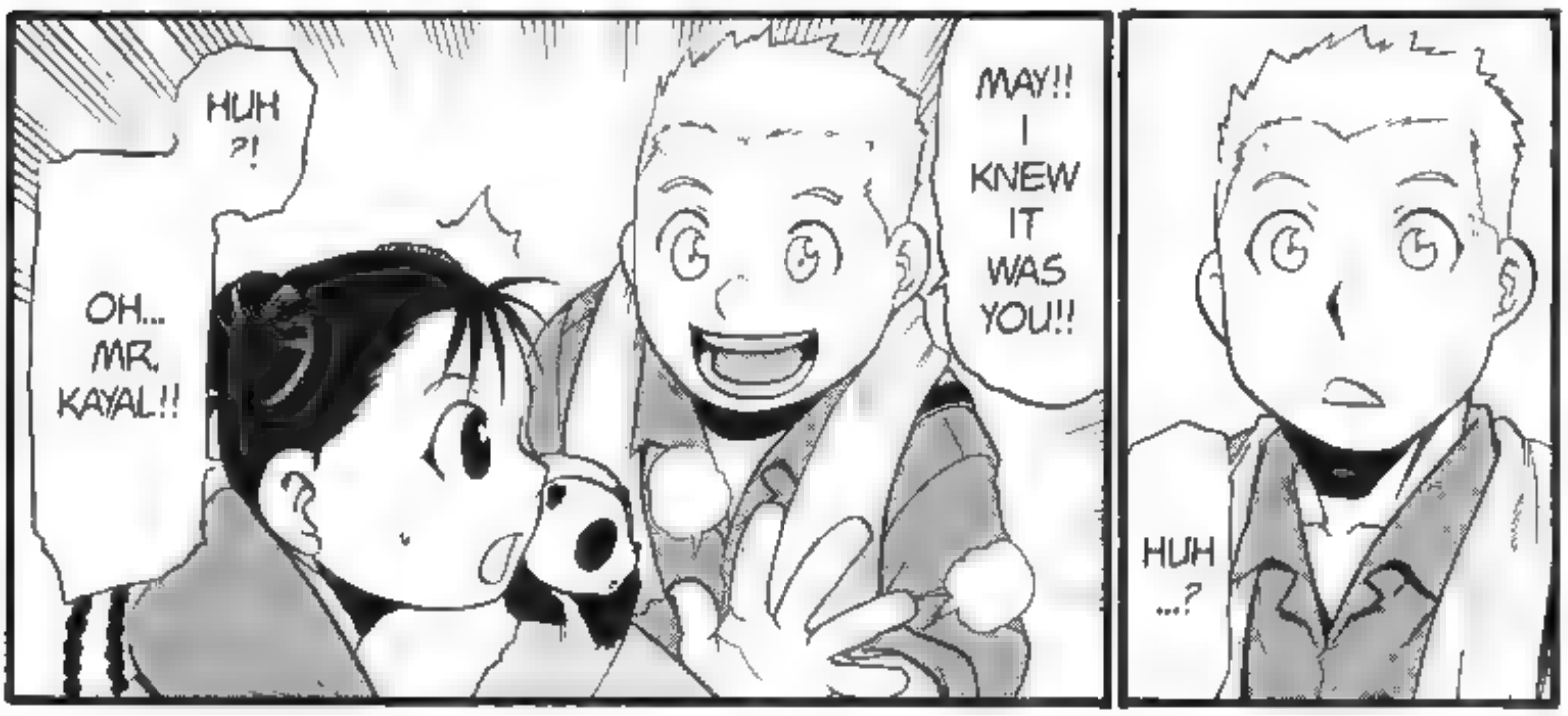
...




HUH ?!
OH... MR. KAYAL!!
MAY!! I KNEW IT WAS YOU!!
HUH ...?

UM... I'M GOING BACK HOME TO MY COUNTRY.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
YOU'RE THAT ALCHE-MIST GIRL!!
buzz
buzz buzz

DID YOU EVER GET TO MEET THE FULL-METAL ALCHE-MIST?
SHAKE SHAKE SHAKE
TIME TO LEAVE AMESTRIS, IS IT, GIRL? COME BACK TO VISIT ANYTIME! YOU KNOW YOU'RE ALWAYS WELCOME HERE!
She'll break.

HEY EVERY-BODY! IT'S MAY!
OH!!

WE SHOULD ALL EAT TO-GETHER.

GOOD IDEA. WE'RE ALMOST OFF WORK ANYWAY.

chatter chatter

chatter chatter chatter

MAY, YOU SHOULD STAY FOR SUPPER!

HAHA

HA HA

ALL RIGHT, LET'S TRY TO FINISH WORK EARLY TODAY.

AND RUN A HOT BATH TOO!

HA HAHA

YOU BET.

OKAY

buzz buzz

HEY, HONEY! MAKE SURE YOU CLEAN THE HOUSE!

buzz

YOU SHOULD STAY AT OUR PLACE.

buzz

DO YOU HAVE A PLACE TO STAY?

...

WHAT NICE PEOPLE.

sob

sob

sob

Drip

?

HURRY UP AND TAKE ME TO XING THEN.

THAT'S FINE. IT'S UP TO YOU.

ARE YOU GOING TO ABANDON THEM?

BUT I DON'T THINK BRINGING HOME A HALF-DEAD HOMUNCULUS LIKE ME WILL MAKE MUCH OF A DIFFERENCE.

CENTRAL CITY IS WHERE YOU'LL FIND WHAT YOU'RE LOOKING FOR...

...YOU'LL BE ABLE TO LEARN THE *TRUE* SECRET TO IMMORTALITY.

IF YOU GO TO CENTRAL CITY...

ONE MORE BLOW AND THIS BODY IS FINISHED FOR GOOD.

I GUESS NONE OF THAT MATTERS SINCE YOU'RE GOING BACK TO YOUR OWN COUNTRY.

BUT NEVER MIND.

ALL THAT'LL DO IS MAKE THE EMPEROR ANGRY, RIGHT?

BUT YOU STILL HAVE A HUGE TAB THERE, DON'T YOU
I'LL PICK UP SOME GROG AT THE BAR.

I'M SORRY, MR. KAYAL...
...BUT I'LL HAVE TO TAKE YOU UP ON THAT OFFER SOME OTHER TIME!

I HAVE TO GO BACK TO CENTRAL CITY TO TAKE CARE OF SOME UNFINISHED BUSINESS!!
DASH!
HUH?!
WHERE ARE YOU GOING ?!

HEH HEH HEH... THE LITTLE FOOL!

THE STONE ... I NEED THE STONE!!

ALL I NEED IS A PHILOSOPHER'S STONE TO RETRANSFORM MYSELF.

AS SOON AS WE GET TO CENTRAL CITY, I'M ALL SET.

krak

krik

HRM...

LT. HAWKEYE, BRING ME SOME TEA.

LET'S TAKE A BREAK.

YES, SIR.

SO YOU'VE LEARNED THE TRUTH...

...ABOUT SELIM

klatta

klatta

klink

YES, SIR.

AND YOU ALSO KNOW MY TRUE IDENTITY?

YES, SIR.

...HOW YOU, AS AN ORDINARY CITIZEN, FEEL ABOUT THE FACT THAT THE HEAD OF THIS COUNTRY AND HIS SON ARE BOTH HOMUNCULI.

NO. I'M JUST CURI-OUS...

klatta

klink klatta

NOW THAT I'VE FOUND OUT, WILL YOU KILL ME, SIR?

YOU'RE JUST PLAYING AT BEING A FAMILY, AREN'T YOU, SIR?

I THINK IT'S SAD THAT YOUR FAMILY, THE ONE THING THAT THE PEOPLE OF AMESTRIS SHOULD BE ABLE TO BELIEVE IN, WAS ARTIFICIALLY CREATED.

YOU HOMUNCULI LOOK DOWN ON US HUMANS AS FOOLS. YOU MIMIC US AND LAUGH AT US FROM THE SHADOWS. ISN'T THAT THE TRUTH, SIR?

MY "SON" SELIM WAS GIVEN TO ME BY MY SUPERIOR.

THAT'S TRUE.

"PLAYING AT BEING A FAMILY."

BUT I DID CHOOSE MY ***WIFE*** ON MY OWN.

NOT ONLY MY SON...

...BUT MY POSITION AS ***PRESI-DENT***, MY ***SUBOR-DINATES*** AND MY ***POWER***.

IN OTHER WORDS, I'M ALSO ***PLAYING AT BEING A DIC-TATOR.***

OH... YES, SIR.

IS THE TEA READY YET?

DELI-
CIOUS.

MM
...

sip

UH...

...

tap
tapp
tap

COULD YOU PLEASE MOVE YOUR FOOT, SIS?

STOMP

STOMP

I'M SORRY !!

AND YOURS S AS SEVERE AS EVER, SIS-

YOUR FACE IS AS IDIOTIC AS I REMEMBER!

CRASH

DON'T CALL ME "SIS"!!! AT MILITARY HEADQUARTERS YOU WILL ADDRESS ME AS MAJOR GENERAL!!!

AYE, MA'AM !!!

Sigh

OF COURSE.

I HEAR THAT YOUR MEN AT BRIGGS TOTALLY OBLITERATED THE DRACHMA INVADERS.

IT'S OUR DUTY AT FORT BRIGGS TO PROTECT THE NORTHERN BORDER.

I DON'T CARE.

Whsper

BUT WON'T THAT JUST HASTEN THE COMPLETION OF THE NATIONAL TRANSMUTATION CIRCLE?

CLENCH

IT'S BETTER FOR BOTH OF OUR NATIONS IF DRACHMA LEARNS THIS NOW!

...NOW THAT THEY'VE TASTED THE BITTERNESS OF OVERWHELMING AND TOTAL DEFEAT!

FOR DECADES AND CENTURIES TO COME, THEY'LL THINK TWICE BEFORE PICKING A FIGHT WITH OUR COUNTRY...!

THW

WHO SAYS I EVEN WANT TO GO THERE, YOU SPINELESS PANSY?!

ACK!

I SEE YOU'RE JUST AS FEISTY AS EVER.

AT THAT RATE, YOU'LL NEVER FIND A HUSBAND, SIS—

NOW THAT YOU'RE BACK IN CENTRAL CITY, WHY DON'T YOU GO SEE FATHER?

SIS... ER MAJOR GENERAL...

pof pof

IF I FEEL LIKE IT, I WILL!

YOUR COWARDICE WILL RUB OFF ON ME IF I'M AROUND YOU MUCH LONGER!!

klak klak klak

YOU DUNCE

klak klak klak

OH!
THERE YOU ARE, MAJOR GENERAL.
HE'S NOTHING BUT A *COWARD* WHO RAN FROM THE ISHBALAN FRONT WITH H·S TAIL BETWEEN HIS LEGS.
I DON'T CONSIDER HIM A BROTHER, SIR.
IS THAT YOUR YOUNGER BROTH·ER?
DO YOU KNOW THE THREE RESTRICTIONS ON THE PRACTICE OF ALCHEMY IN THIS COUNTRY?
YES, SIR.
klak
klak
klak
klak
klak
COME WITH ME.
I NEED TO SHOW YOU SOME-THING.

Clank

WHY DO YOU ASK, SIR?

GOOD. THAT'S ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW.

"YOU SHALL NOT CREATE GOLD." "YOU SHALL NOT CREATE A HUMAN BE NG."

"YOU SHALL NOT OPPOSE THE MILI-TARY."

GWOON

AND THE RULE "DO NOT CREATE GOLD" IS THERE TO PREVENT ECONOMIC TURMOIL.

"DO NOT OPPOSE THE MILITARY" GOES WITHOUT SAYING.

klak klak klak

klak

I'VE HEARD THAT THERE'S ALWAYS BEEN AN UNSPOKEN RESTRICTION AMONG ALCHEMISTS IN REGARD TO HUMANS CREATING HUMANS BECAUSE IT'S A SIN AGAINST GOD.

BECAUSE IT GOES AGAINST ETHICS.

klak klak

klak

THAT'S NOT THE REASON.

THE LAW STATES "YOU SHALL NOT CREATE A HUMAN BEING"...

...BUT WHY SHOULD CREATING A BETTER HUMAN BE SO TABOO?

BOP BIP BIP BEEP

1 2 3 4 CLEAR 0

AND AT THIS TIME, IN THIS COUNTRY, WE HAVE NO TIME FOR SUCH QUAINT CONCEPTS AS "SIN."

ETHICS ARE A *FLUID* AFFAIR— THEY'RE ALWAYS CHANGING.

klaaak klaaak klaaak

KLAK

THE REASON IS MUCH SIMPLER.

GWOON

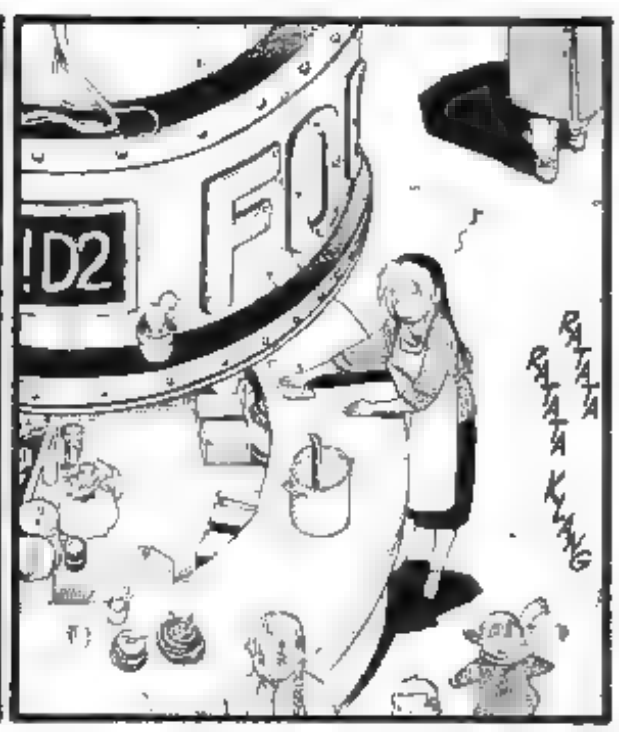
VOOM...

GWOON GWOON

IT'S TO PREVENT ANY SINGLE INDIVIDUAL FROM POSSESSING A POWERFUL ARMY.

KLANG
KLANG
KLANG

VRRRM
VRRRM
POOF


D2
KLANG

HOLD ON, I THINK THERE'S A PLACE...
clank clank clank
IS THERE ANYPLACE WE CAN EAT AROUND HERE?
WOW, WHAT'S THAT BIG STATUE?

YUP! RIGHT WHERE I REMEMBER IT!
clank clank
THERE IT IS!

OH!

WHAT A HOTTIE!

I UNDER-ESTIMATED THE BIG GALOOT.

DAH!

WHAT? THEY KNOW EACH OTHER?

AL!!

ARE YOU STILL TRAVEL-ING?

ROSÉ! HOW'VE YOU BEEN?!

NO, BIG BROTHER'S NOT WITH US TODAY.

OH...

WHERE'S ED? ISN'T HE WITH YOU?

I WANTED TO SEE HIM...

THAT'S TOO BAD.

I'M DONE WASHING THE POT.

IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE I CAN-

W-WHY ARE YOU SMILING ?!!

MY MY!

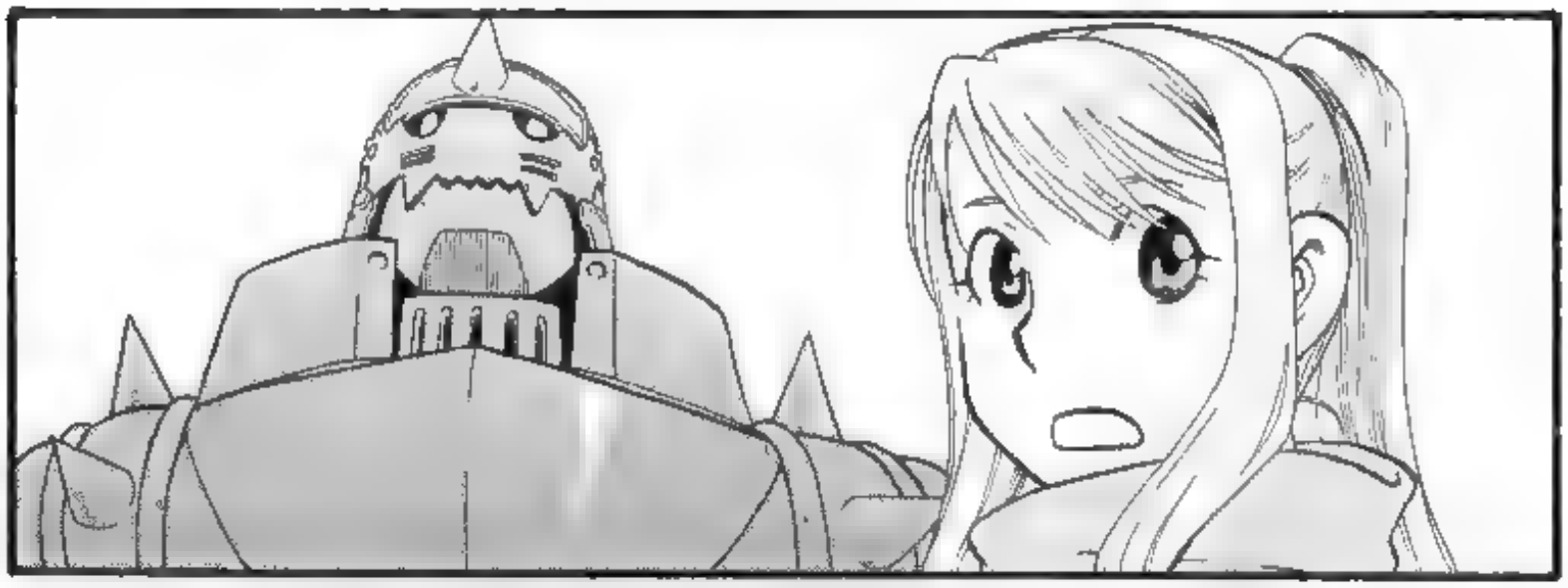
OH, I JUST SAW THE LOOK ON YOUR FACE AND THOUGHT YOU MIGHT BE JEAL-

HUH? WHAT? SO YOU'RE ED'S...

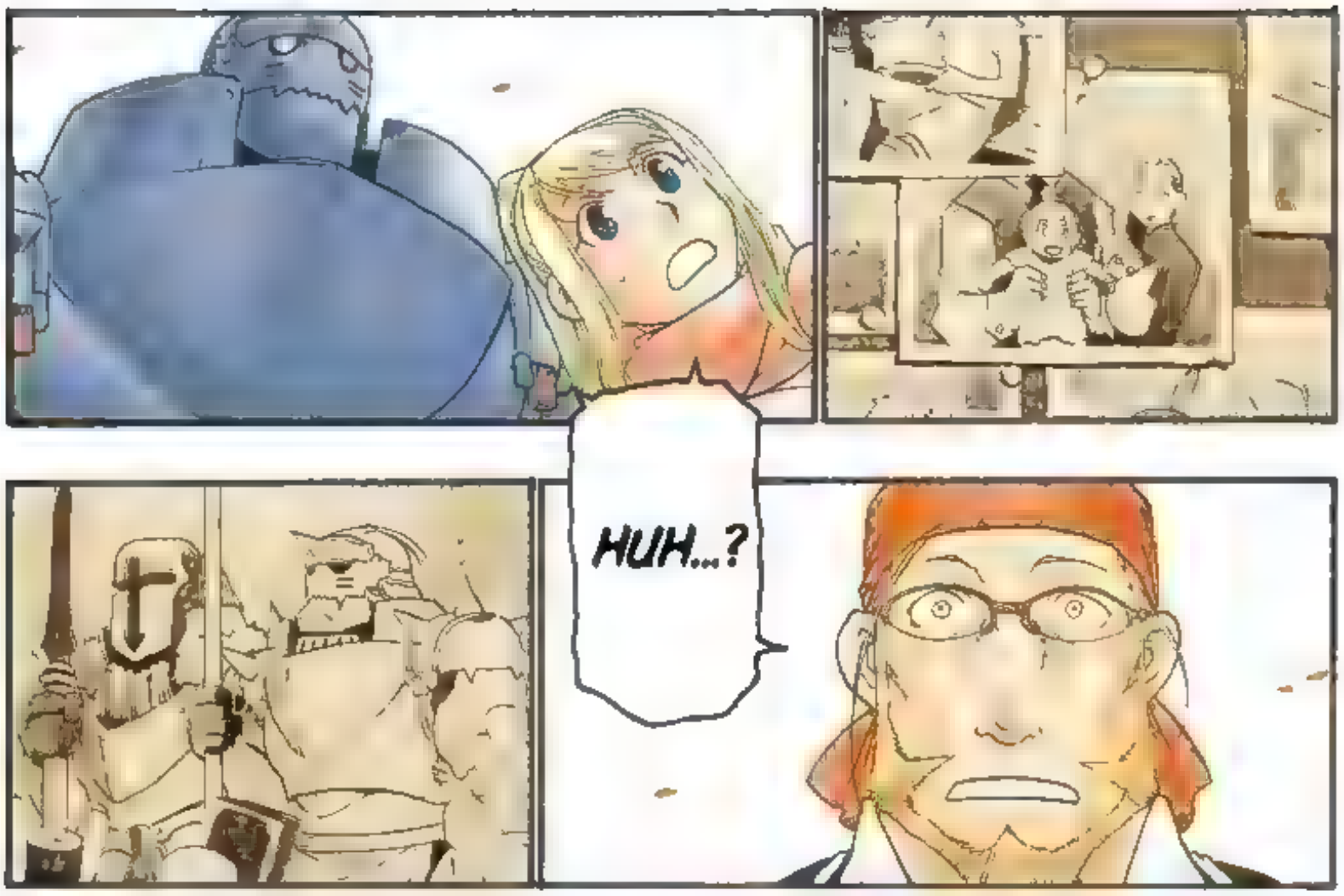
WE'RE CHILDHOOD FRIENDS !!

HEY, ROSÉ.

TMP TMP



HUH
?!!


HUH...?

RAGE!
NOOOOO!!
OH!
UH!
SOR-
RY!
THE ARMOR FROM MY COL-LECTION !!
DAD ?!
YOU'RE ED AND AL'S...

Chapter 81
A Full Recovery

FULLMETAL
ALCHEMIST

UH-HUH...

...ABOUT YOUR BODY.

PINAKO TOLD ME...

I KNOW.

IT'S BEEN OVER TEN YEARS SINCE I LAST SAW YOU, ALPHONSE.

...

...

Uh...

claaang

klatta

vrooo

claaang

MR. HOHENHEIM!

OH! THERE HE IS.

UM... DAD...?

FOOD

AH...

ALL RIGHT, WE'LL TALK MORE LATER.

OKAY

SURE, NO PROBLEM.

ARE YOU FREE? WE COULD REALLY USE YOUR HELP.

WELL, IT'S JUST THAT I LEFT HOME AND ABANDONED HIM YEARS AGO, SO I'M SURE HE DOESN'T THINK OF ME AS HIS FATHER.

SHOULDN'T YOU BE WITH HIM THEN?

He's huge!

HUH? THAT'S YOUR SON THAT YOU HAVEN'T SEEN IN A LONG TIME?

...I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY TO HIM.

AND THE TRUTH IS...

OH...

YOU GUYS FIXED IT FOR ME, REMEMBER?

THAT RADIO...

SINCE THEN...

NO STATIC AT ALL.

IT'S BEEN WORKING GREAT SINCE THEN.

I KNOW IT MUST BE HARD SEEING THE TOWN LIKE THIS, BUT THE TRUTH IS...

I'M SORRY.

IT'S BECAUSE WE STARTED TROUBLE WITH CORNELLO THAT YOUR TOWN WAS DESTROYED...

brrm klatang

DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT!

...YOU GUYS EXPOSED A GREAT IN-JUSTICE.

AT LEAST I THINK SO.

IT WAS THE ***RIGHT THING*** TO DO.

CLANK

I'M GONNA GO HELP REBUILD THE TOWN!

Clench

...

GO HIDE SOME-WHERE, OKAY?

WINRY, YOU SHOULD KEEP A LOW PROFILE.

CLANK!

CLANK

AL!

DO YOU WANT ME TO CARRY THIS FOR YOU?

YEAH! THANKS FOR THE HELP

ALPHONSE!

CLANK

CLANK

DAD, I WANT TO WORK TOO!

LET'S GO, YOKI.
WE SHOULD GO HELP OUT TOO.
HUH?! AREN'T WE GONNA EAT FIRST?!

silence...
HM...
AAAAAAH!! LET ME GO!! LET ME GO!!
See ya.
COME ON.
Fooooood!
FOOD TASTES BETTER AFTER A HARD DAY'S WORK.
DRAG DRAG DRAG

Toodles!
COME ON, LET'S GO!
LEAVE IT TO ME!
YOU NEED SOME-PLACE TO STAY ON THE DOWN LOW, RIGHT?
Kidnapper
DRAG DRAG DRAG
HM...

I WONDER WHICH OUTFIT WOULD BE BEST?

BUT NOTHING TOO PLAIN, AND YOU'LL WANT TO BE ABLE TO MOVE AROUND IN IT...

YOU'RE TRYING TO KEEP A LOW PROFILE, SO IT HAS TO BE INCONSPICUOUS...

WINRY, IS THE BATH HOT ENOUGH?

RELAX

I CAN'T REMEMBER THE LAST TIME I TOOK A BATH.

THIS IS HEAVEN.

IT'S PERFECT!!

MMM...

THIS IS GREAT

MS. ROSÉ IS SO NICE. ♡

Simple needs

OKAY! THANK YOU SO MUCH!

I'M GONNA PUT A CHANGE OF CLOTHES OVER HERE FOR YOU.

YOU MADE ED'S LEG, RIGHT?

YES.

I GUESS I SORT OF DID IT OUT OF FRIEND-SHIP...

BEING ON YOUR OWN AND WORK-ING AS AN AUTO-MAIL ENG NEER AT SUCH A YOUNG AGE.

YOU KNOW, I REALLY ADMIRE YOU.

Splish

I WONDER IF ED'S ALL RIGHT...

I WONDER IF HE'S STILL MISSING...

I WONDER IF HE'S BEEN ABLE TO TAKE A HOT BATH LATELY...

Splish

...

SO THAT MEANS YOU'RE LITERALLY THE PERSON WHO HELPED ED GET BACK ON HIS FEET.

THAT'S AMAZING.

WINRY, YOU SAVED THE PERSON WHO SAVED ME.

INDIRECTLY, YOU HELPED *ME* GET BACK ON MY FEET TOO, SO...

THEN ED AND AL CAME TO THIS TOWN AND EXPOSED FATHER CORNELLO AS A FRAUD.

THAT'S WHY I PUT MY TRUST IN THEIR SO-CALLED MIRACLES AND BECAME DEEPLY INVOLVED IN THE LETO CULT.

I THOUGHT THAT THEY COULD BRING MY BOYFRIEND BACK TO LIFE...

TCH!

ED SCOLDED ME AND TOLD ME TO WALK ON MY OWN TWO LEGS.

HOW DID YOU RECOVER FROM THAT?

WHEN THE ONE THING THAT I HAD DEPENDED ON DIS-APPEARED, I LOST ALL HOPE.

HA HA HA!

Geez

HOW COULD HE SAY THAT TO YOU? TO A PERSON THAT'S DEPRESSED, IT'S LIKE GETTING SALT RUBBED IN THEIR WOUND.

...WERE FINALLY ABLE TO OPEN OUR EYES TO THE *TRUTH*.

THE TOWNSPEOPLE AND I...

BUT I'M *GLAD* HE SCOLDED ME.

MAYBE THE RIOTS HAPPENED BECAUSE WE THOUGHT THAT BELIEVING IN MIRACLES WOULD MAKE OUR LIVES EASIER AND DIDN'T BOTHER TO THINK ON OUR OWN.

BUT THIS TIME WE'RE GOING TO REVIVE THIS TOWN WITH *OUR OWN HANDS*.

NO MORE MIRACLES— JUST GOOD OLD-FASHIONED HARD WORK!

WE REALLY DO APPRECIATE WHAT ED AND AL DID FOR US.

AFTER ALL, IF WE HAD CONTINUED TO LIVE UNDER THAT DELUSION, WE MIGHT WELL HAVE ENDED UP BEING A MINDLESS ARMY OF SOLDIERS WITH NO FEAR OF DEATH.

WHETHER THEIR ARM IS RIPPED OFF OR THEIR HEAD IS BLOWN APART, THEY WILL CONTINUE TO FIGHT AND OBEY OUR EVERY COMMAND.

THESE ARE PERFECT SOLDIERS THAT HAVE NO FEAR OF DEATH.

tap tap

YES.

THESE... AREN'T HUMAN.

ARE THEY DOLLS, SIR?

SOULS WILL BE TRANSFERRED INTO THESE HUMAN-SHAPED VESSELS IN ORDER TO CREATE SOLDIERS.

WHAT IS IT?

MAY I ASK YOU SOME-THING, SIR?

THE BATTLEFIELD BECOMES A ***HUNTING GROUND*** FOR US TO OBTAIN A LARGE NUMBER OF SOULS.

FROM THE PEOPLE IN THE COUNTRIES WE'VE CON-QUERED...

...OR ***WILL CONQUER*** IN THE FUTURE.

WHERE WILL YOU OBTAIN THE SUPPLY OF SOULS TO BE TRANSFERRED?

YOU HAVEN'T FOUND IZUMI CURTIS YET?

SAVE YOUR EX-CUSES.

EVEN THE EMPLOYEE AT THE SHOP SAID HE HAD NO IDEA WHERE SHE WENT.

NO, SIR.

APPARENTLY SHE STILL HASN'T RETURNED FROM HER VACATION.

SIR, WHY ARE WE PUTTING SO MUCH EFFORT INTO LOCATING THIS *ORDINARY HOUSEWIFE?*

BUT..

YES, SIR..

WE AT CENTRAL CITY WILL GIVE YOU WHATEVER AID YOU REQUIRE

BRING HER HERE NO MATTER WHAT IT TAKES.

DIS-MISSED.

THAT'S NOT SOMETHING YOU SUB-ORDINATES NEED TO KNOW.

SIGH..

GWOON

GWOON

GWOON

GWOOZ
GWOOZ
GWOOZ
Pita
Pata
Pita
I'M TOTALLY LOST.
MAYBE FOLLOWING THOSE MILITARY GUYS WASN'T SUCH A GREAT IDEA..
GWOOZ
GWOOZ
GWOOZ
Pook
AND THIS PLACE GIVES ME THE CREEPS.
THESE HUGE UNDERGROUND PASSAGEWAYS SEEM TO GO ON FOREVER.
GWOOZ
HUP!
PLOP
GWOOZ
Pata
Pita
GWOOZ
GWOOZ
sniff sniff
HUH?
SOME-THING STINKS...

AAAA

Aaa

ROO

Hgg

O

Oaa

ah!

OOAR

He's one of us

He's one of us.

He's one of us.

He's one of us?

He's one of us?

shuffle shuffle

shuffle

snif

snif

FR

EE

ZE

GYAAAAAA!

CEN-TRAL IS SCARY !!

THERE'S NO WAY MR. GREED IS HERE!!

NO!! NOT A CHANCE !!

I...

I PEED IN MY PANTS !

I'M GETTING OUT OF HERE!

WHERE'S THE EXIT?!

Ny dah!

klatta klank

EX...

EXIT!

COULD THIS PLACE GET ANY CREEP-IER ?!

SLOP

OJCH !

FWUMP

YES... IT COULD..

tickle

WOOOON

SORTA REMINDS ME OF THAT LAB WHERE THEY TURNED US INTO CHIMERAS...

THERE ARE SO MANY OF THOSE HANG-NG UP THERE, IT LOOKS LIKE A HUMAN *BODY FARM.*

A DOLL FAC-TORY ?

WHAT THE HELL KIND OF PLACE IS THIS?

Pa ta

Pi ta

!!

WE CAME HERE TO VERIFY WHETHER THERE'S A LARGE TUNNEL BENEATH THIS TOWN.

UH-HUH.

AN UNDER-GROUND TUNNEL?

LET'S GO SOME-WHERE WITH LESS PEOPLE.

HOLD ON.

IT...

NO, IT *MUST* BE HERE.

IF THERE IS A TUNNEL...

WHY?

BUT AT THE SAME TIME I FELT REALLY *LUCKY*.

I CAME HERE WITH THAT PURPOSE IN MIND, SO WHEN I SAW YOU, DAD, WAS REALLY SURPRISED.

HMM...

IN OTHER WORDS, YOU WANT TO STOP THE NATIONAL TRANSMUTATION CIRCLE FROM ACTIVATING.

THAT'S RIGHT.

BECAUSE IN THE UNDERGROUND PASSAGEWAYS BENEATH CENTRAL CITY I SAW SOMEONE THAT LOOKED *EXACTLY* LIKE YOU.

...AND I WANTED TO ASK YOU ABOUT IT WHEN I SAW YOU AGAIN.

...I THOUGHT MAYBE YOU'D KNOW THE IDENTITY OF THAT MAN...

SINCE HE'S OBV OUSLY SOMEHOW CONNECTED TO YOU...

HUH?

ARE YOU SURE, ALPHONSE?

YOU'VE TOLD ME A LOT ALREADY.

DIDN'T YOU CONSIDER THE POSSIBILITY THAT I MIGHT REVEAL EVERYTHING YOU'VE TOLD ME TO *THEM*?

WHAT IF I'M ON THEIR SIDE?

UH...

TONK

...

!

UH... OKAY!

THANKS FOR TRUSTING ME.

WHAT A GOOD BOY— HE CAN EVEN COME TO TRUST A LOUSY FATHER LIKE ME.

YOU'VE MADE MY DAY.

I MEANT TO TELL YOU THIS EARLIER, BUT...

I HAVE A LONG STORY TO TELL YOU...

...AND I WANT ED TO HEAR IT AS WELL.

OK...

AND NOW...

...I THINK IT'S HIGH TIME I PUT THE SAME TRUST IN MY SONS AND TELL THEM EVERYTHING...

HE'S WHAT?

BIG BROTHER'S *MISSING* RIGHT NOW.

tonk

BANK

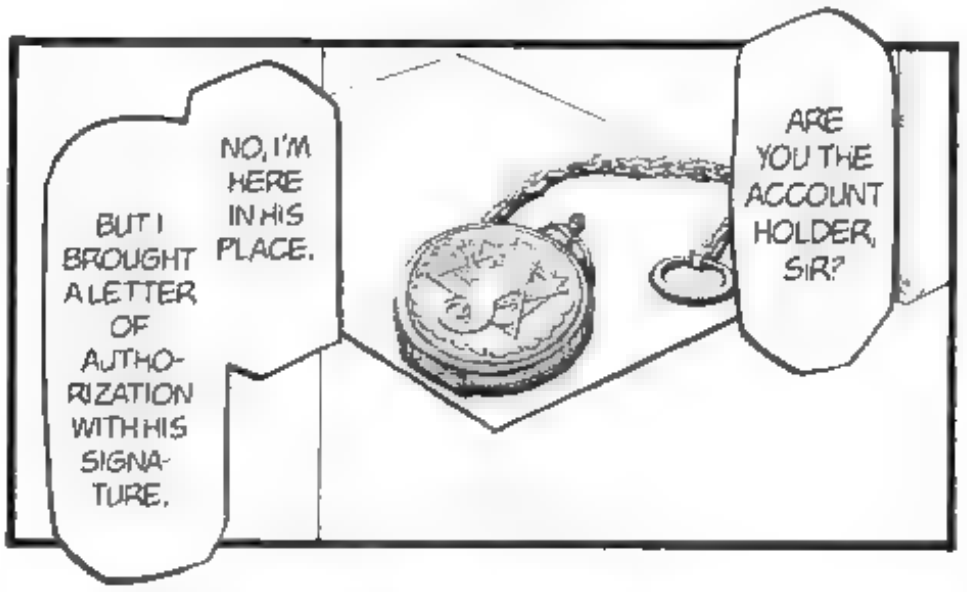
NEXT CUSTOMER.

chatter chatter

chatter

I WANT TO MAKE A WITHDRAWAL FROM EDWARD ELRIC'S RESEARCH ACCOUNT.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
klack


ARE YOU THE ACCOUNT HOLDER, SIR?
NO, I'M HERE IN HIS PLACE.
BUT I BROUGHT A LETTER OF AUTHO-RIZATION WITH HIS SIGNA-TURE.

PLEASE WRITE THE ACCOUNT HOLDER'S ACCOUNT NUMBER AND THE AMOUNT TO BE WITHDRAWN ON THIS FORM.
I ALSO NEED TO SEE THE ACCOUNT HOLDER'S D.

COME AGAIN, SIR.

Next in line.

THERE WAS A WITHDRAWAL FROM STATE ALCHEMIST EDWARD ELRIC'S ACCOUNT JUST NOW.

HELLO, I'M CALLING FROM BANK OF AMESTRIA, NORTH AREA BRANCH.

Clack

hrrng

THERE'S YOUR TREAT-MENT FEE.

PLUNK

SOME-ONE CAME IN HIS PLACE.

YES.

YES, HIS DISTIN-GUISHING FEATURES ARE...

GEEZ, WHAT A RIP-OFF.

YES, IT LOOKS LIKE IT'S ALL THERE.

THAT'S TRUE

WE'RE JUST THANKFUL THAT YOU'RE NOT ASKING ANY QUESTIONS.

I THINK IT'S A FAIR DEAL CONSIDERING THAT YOU'RE PAYING US TO KEEP OUR MOUTHS SHUT TOO.

Her heh heh

HUH? DID THEY FIGURE OUT THAT THE I.D. WAS A FAKE?

HEY, DARIUS.

THE MILITARY'S ONTO US.

HEY HEY! DON'T BRING ANY TROUBLE IN HERE!

Then you shouldn't rip off your customers!

FOR OVER 50 YEARS NOW, OUR MOTTO'S BEEN "THE CUSTOMER ALWAYS COMES FIRST."

DON'T BE RIDICULOUS!

DOCTOR, YOU DIDN'T RAT US OUT, DID YOU?

MILITARY? OH MY! IS THERE ANY TROUBLE?

kreeeak

YES?

NOK NOK

WELCOME

NOK NOK NOK

OH...

NO TROUBLE

WE'RE JUST LOOKING FOR SOMEONE.

IS THERE ANYONE BEING HOSPITALIZED RIGHT NOW?

WE DO HAVE A FEW BEDS IN THE BACK FOR PATIENTS WHO NEED A LONGER STAY...

AND IF SOMEONE NEEDS SERIOUS TREATMENT?

AS YOU CAN SEE, IT'S ONLY MY WIFE AND I WHO OPERATE THIS LITTLE CLINIC...

IS THAT YOUR ONLY PATIENT RIGHT NOW?

WELL, THERE IS ONE PERSON...
...

WHOOSH
TMP
TMP
TMP
TMP
TMP

UH... IS SOME-THING WRONG?

YOU!

DID YOU RECENTLY MAKE A WITH-DRAWAL FROM THE BANK?

ARE YOU THE ONLY PATIENT THAT'S HOSPITAL-IZED HERE?

YES... I AM.

CHAK

DON'T MOVE.

SLOWLY TAKE YOUR HANDS OUT FROM UNDER THE BLANKET.

Clik

CLUNK
CLUNK
CLUNK
CLUNK
CLUNK

DO IT NOW !!

LET'S SEE THOSE HANDS !!

HUH? WHAT ARE YOU SOLDIERS DOING HERE?

WE'RE LOOKING FOR SOMEONE.

HAVE YOU SEEN ANYONE ***SUSPICIOUS*** COMING AND GOING FROM THIS BUILDING RECENTLY?

SUSPICIOUS? I'M NOT SURE.

WHAT'S HE LOOK LIKE?

SNAP!

VERY SHORT...

UH... LET'S SEE...

HE'S GOT A RED COAT, LONG BLOND HAIR, USUALLY KEPT IN A BRAID...

THOK!!

HARRIS?!

WHAT WAS THAT?!

?!

BAM!..

FWUMP

Aaaaaaaah!

HA...

SHAKA

SHAKA

WHO DID THIS TO YOU?!

HAR-RIS!!

DON'T MOVE!!

COHEN! HARRIS! WHAT HAP-PENED ?!

krp-pak

KER-POW!

kree kree

WHA...

KREE...

DON'T BE SO RECK-LESS!

YOU'RE STILL RE-COVERING, REMEM-BER?

DON'T TREAT ME LIKE I'M S CK!

RRGH ...

FW AP

FW AP

FW AP

ARRGH!!

WHAT THE ...?

SLIP SLIP SLIP

WELL, I'LL BE! HE TOOK 'EM ALL BY HIMSELF.

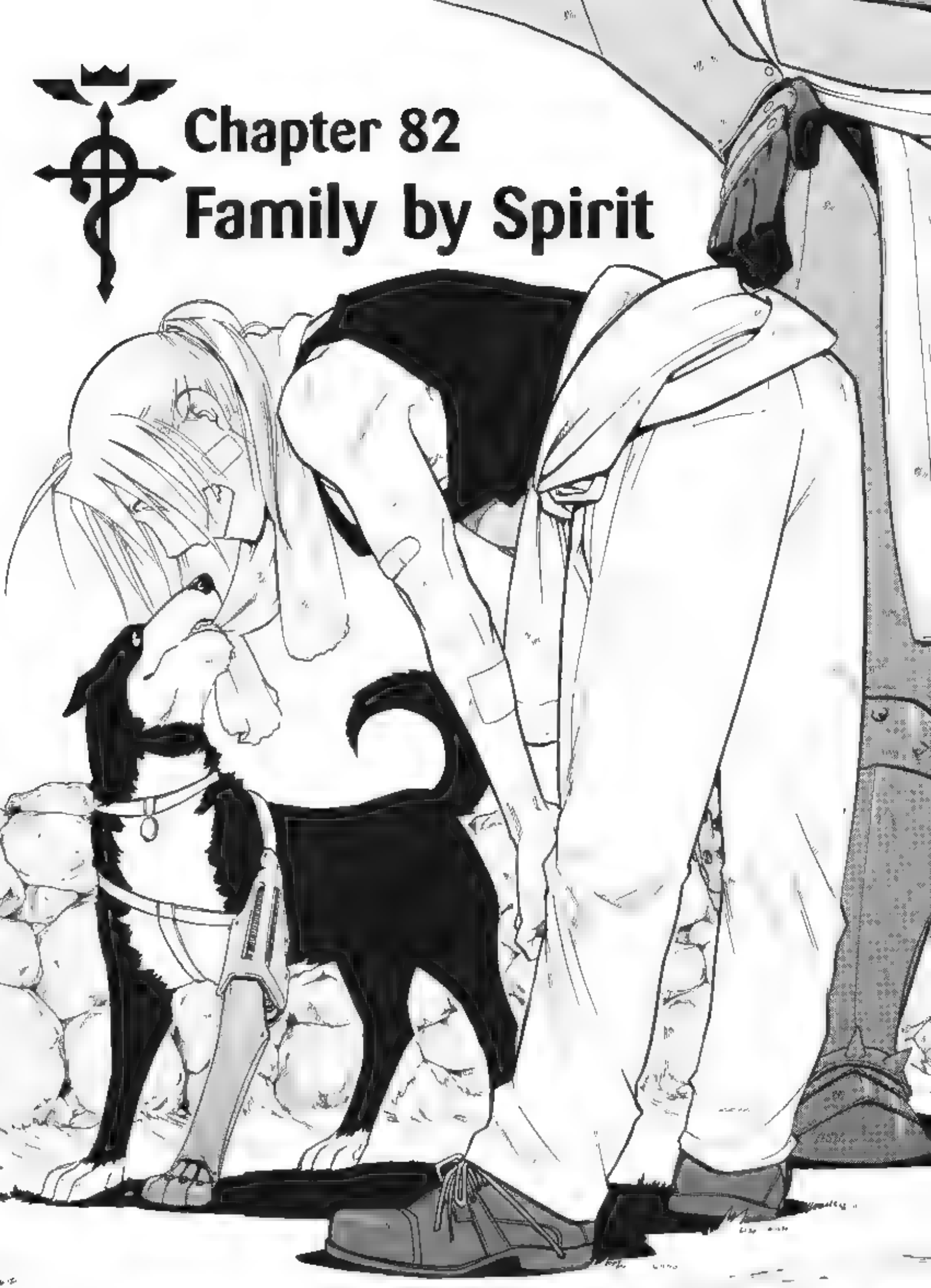
SLUMP

PLOP

SNICK!

I'VE MADE A FULL RECOVERY!

Chapter 82
Family by Spirit



HURRY, HURRY!

THANKS FOR EVERY-THING, DOC.

THANKS.

NO NEED TO THANK ME. JUST HURRY UP AND GET OUT OF HERE.

Shoo!

FREEZE!!

CHAK

CHAK

THEN I GUESS I'LL KEEP THIS LOOK FOR A WHILE.

nom nom

SO THEY'VE DESCRIBED ME AS SOMEONE WITH A RED COAT AND A BRAID, HUH?

DROP YOUR WEAPONS !!

nom nom nom

TCH!

THE BACK UP.

HUR-RY UP!!
nom nom nom nom nom
PUT YOUR HANDS ABOVE YOUR HEAD!

CH AK
YOU WANT THIS KID'S HEAD TO GET BLOWN OFF?!
WHY DON'T YOU FREEZE ?!
GULP

HEY !!
DASH
RUN !!
He called me small!
HEH HEH HEH, WHY WOULD WE LET HIM GO? HE'S THE PERFECT HOSTAGE!!
HEY, WHY DON'T YOU GUYS DROP YOUR...
MUWA HA HA!
GRRR!!
GASP
Let him go!!
YOU COWARDS, TAKING SUCH A SMALL CHILD HOSTAGE !!

GO AROJND THE BACK!!

AFTER THEM!!

STOP !!

THEY WERE GOING TO *KILL* JS!

LET ME GO, DAMN IT!!

DON'T LEAVE US!!

THOSE DOCTORS ARE DOING QUITE A JOB BACK THERE.

THEY THREAT-ENED US—*WE HAD NO CHOICE!!*

THANK YOU FOR COMING!!

WE WERE SO *SCARED!*

GL OMP!

KA CH AK

EAT LEAD!

!!

BA M!!

BLAM
BLAM
BLAM
BLAM
BLAM
AAAH.
BLAM
BLAM
BLAM
SO COOL! ♡
TAKE ME FOR A RIDE! PLEASE! PLEASE! ♡
CHECK OUT MY BRAND-NEW SET OF WHEELS. ♡
HEY, BABY.
ALL RIGHT
GO FIND US A RIDE.
BLAM
SKREEEEACH
GIVE ME YOUR CAR!!
IT'S YOURS !!
CHAKA

SKREEECH

GO AFTER THEM!!

CAR MODEL EZO-16!

All the rich boys have em.

They're all the rage.

EZO-16?

TARGET HAS STOLEN A CAR FROM A CIVILIAN AND IS HEADING TOWARDS THE SOUTHERN SECTOR!

DON'T CALL ME GORILLA!!

YOU'RE NOT VERY GOOD AT DRIVING, ARE YOU, MR. GORILLA?!

OF COURSE THEY'RE BETTER AT DRIVING— THEY'RE USED TO THESE SNOW-COVERED STREETS!

VROOM

UH-OH... THEY'RE GAIN NG ON US!

WHAT FOR?!

JUST DO IT!!

VRM VRM VRM VRM VRM VRM

TURN HERE !!

HUH?!

MAKE A RIGHT !!

CLAP!

NOW MAKE A U-TURN !!

SKREE SKR EE REE

REECH

TONK

ARRRGH... I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE UP TO, BUT HERE GOES!

SPIN

DON'T LOSE...

SKRE EE

HE'S TURNED SOUTH ONTO SIXTH STREET.

HUH ?

EECH

EECH

SKREEECH

...THEM !!

VROOOM

DID THEY TURN DOWN AN ALLEY?

put put put

toobee

WHERE DID THAT CAR GO?

put put put

zsh zsh zsh

WHAT A RE-LIEF.

IT WORKED.

VROOOM

DON'T LOSE THEM "

HURRY "

patooiee

put put put put

VROOOM

WHAT?! YOU GOT A PROBLEM WITH MY DESIGN?!

YEAH, BIG-TIME.

HUH? WHY? IT LOOKS COOL!

put put put

put put put put

HURRY UP AND TRANSMUTE THE CAR BACK TO SOMETHING PLAIN.

I'M ***BEG-GING*** YOU.

JUST CHANGE IT.

FIRST, I NEED TO SEE WHERE THINGS STAND.

WELL? WHERE TO NOW?

THINK ...

WHERE WOULD AL GO?

THINK ...

I WONDER IF AL, WINRY AND THE OTHERS WERE ABLE TO REGROUP...

I NEED TO FIND AL SOME-HOW.

DON'T YOU GUYS USE FORT BRIGGS AS A BASE WHEN YOU'RE IN THE NORTH?

WE CAN'T ANYMORE, NOW THAT CENTRAL CITY TROOPS HAVE T OCCUPIED.

...AND THAT'S THE WHOLE STORY.

HUH ?!!

ARE YOU LISTEN ING?

YOU'RE A PHILOS- OPHER'S STONE AND YOU USED TO BE A SLAVE?

UM...

DID YOU UNDER- STAND WHAT I TOLD YOU?

I WOULD SERIOUSLY DOUBT THE SANITY OF ANYONE WHO BLINDLY FELL FOR A STORY LIKE THAT, AFTER SUDDENLY BEING REUNITED WITH THEIR FATHER FOR THE FIRST TIME IN OVER TEN YEARS.

YOU DON'T BE- LIEVE ME, DO YOU?

OKAY.

OH.

YEAH. THAT SUMS IT UP

Sigh...

...APPARENTLY, I'M ONE OF THE *INSANE* ONES.

BUT...

GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT.

Sigh...

IT'S LIKE SOMEONE ONCE TOLD ME— IN THIS WORLD, NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE.

...IT HURTS SO MUCH TO SEE FRIENDS DIE WHILE I NEVER GET A DAY OLDER.

HEY...

WHAT IS IT LIKE... TO NEVER DIE?

WHAT'S IT LIKE...?

THIS BODY HAS ITS PERKS, BUT...

IT DIDN'T TAKE YOU VERY LONG TO ACCEPT IT

HONESTLY, WHAT YOU SAID SCARES ME

I GUESS IT WAS EASIER FOR ME TO ACCEPT BECAUSE MY OWN SITUATION IS SO...*UNUSUAL.*

BUT...

I...

I DON'T LIKE BEING THE ONLY ONE WHO'S AWAKE AT NIGHT.

I CAN KIND OF UNDER-STAND WHAT YOU'RE SAYING.

THERE'S A PICTURE OF YOU AT GRANNY PINAKO'S HOUSE.

IT WAS TAKEN ABOUT TEN YEARS AGO, AND YOU STILL LOOK THE SAME.

THAT'S TRUE.

BUT WHEN OLD PEOPLE HER AGE SAY "A LONG TIME," THEY DON'T JUST MEAN TEN OR TWENTY YEARS.

GRANNY ALWAYS TOLD ME THAT YOU'VE BEEN HER DRINKING BUDDY FOR A LONG TIME.

I'VE KNOWN PINAKO FOR ABOJT FIFTY OR SIXTY YEARS NOW.

SHE'S THE ONE WHO INTRO-DUCED ME TO TRISHA...

klaang

vrrm ratata klaang

AND THEN YOL MARRIED MOM RIGHT AWAY?

YES.

IT WAS LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT

SHE MADE MY HEART MELT.

HOW CAN THIS GUY SAY SOME-THING SO SAPPY WITH A STRAIGHT FACE?

YOUR HEART MELTED, EH?

IN THE END.. EVEN TRISHA PASSED AWAY BEFORE ME...

...I MEAN, ARE BIG BROTHER AND I...

DON'T TAKE THIS THE WRONG WAY, BUT IF YOUR BODY IS A PHILOSOPHER'S STONE, DOES THAT MEAN...

SO, DAD...

...

MY SOUL MAY HAVE BEEN FUSED WITH A PHILOSOPHER'S STONE THROUGH THE PROCESS OF DECONSTRUCTION AND RECONSTRUCTION, BUT AT THE CORE I'M STILL A ***HUMAN BEING.***

DON'T WORRY.

JH-HUH.

IS THAT WHAT YOU'RE ASKING?

YOU WANT TO KNOW WHETHER YOU'RE A NORMAL HUMAN BEING BECAUSE YOUR FATHER IS A PHILOSOPHER'S STONE.

...!

OH, HIM... I ALMOST FORGOT!

HE'S AN ***IMITATION*** HUMAN DISGUISED IN LIVING FLESH.

BUT THE GUY IN CENTRAL CITY...

I THINK DESTROYING THE UNDER-GROUND TUNNEL WOULD BE THE QUICKEST WAY.

THERE'S ONE HERE, SO—

BAD IDEA.

A POWERFUL HOMUNCULUS NAMED ***PRIDE*** IS DOWN THERE.

GEEZ, DON'T PULL IT OUT OF YOUR LOINCLOTH...

WE'VE BEEN PIECING TOGETHER WHAT THEY'RE UP TO, AND WE THINK THEY'RE TRYING TO USE THIS COUNTRY TO RE-CREATE ANOTHER SITUATION LIKE CSELKSESS.

WE HAVE TO STOP THEM NOW BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!

THAT'S THE TRANS-MUTATION CIRCLE OF REVERSAL, ISN'T IT?

YOU'VE REALLY DONE YOUR HOME-WORK.

MOST IMPRES-SIVE, AL.

HUH?

BUT THE TUNNEL...

AL-PHONSE!

BECAUSE IT'S NOT ***THAT DAY*** YET.

BUT...

...IF WE DON'T HURRY, THEY'LL COMPLETE THEIR TRANS-MUTATION CIRCLE!!

THEN HOW CAN YOU BE SO RELAXED?!

ACTUALLY, THEY M GHT'VE COM-PLETED IT ALREADY.

THAT'S WHERE YOU'LL FIND THE ANSWER.

STOP LOOKING ***DOWN*** ALL THE TIME AND ***LOOK UP.***

LETO THE SUN GOD?

THE SKY?

?

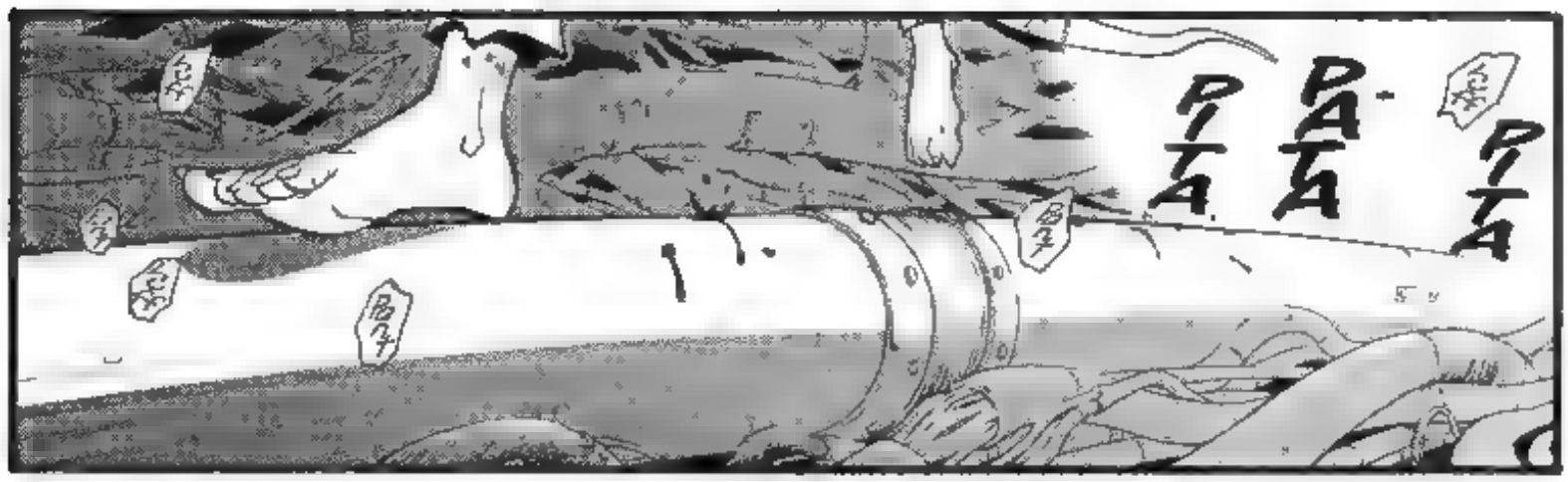
UP ...?

HE'S WAITING FOR THE "DAY OF RECKONING."

GWOON

GWOON

GWOON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WHAT'S THAT GUY'S PROB-LEM?
WHAT DID I EVER DO TO HIM?
OWW, IT HURTS ...

WHEEZE

Aaaa!!!
ZA-SH!

GUARDING THE TUNNELS IS SO *BORING.*

THAT'S WHY IT'S GREAT WHEN GUYS LIKE YOU COME ALONG!

LOOKS LIKE WE'VE GOT US A *RUNNER.*

GOOD. I LIKE IT WHEN THEY PUT UP A FIGHT! HA HA!

Argh

WH

A

M

THAT SKIN...

..THAT COCKY ATTITUDE... THAT CONDE-SCENDING LAUGH...

WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE, IMITATING MR. GREED LIKE THAT?!

HA HA HA HA HA!!

SNIK

YUP!

IN THE FLESH!

Y-YOU'RE GREED...?

...THE GENUINE ARTICLE!

YOU'RE LOOKING AT...

IMITATING?

"MONEY, WOMEN...

...STATUS AND HONOR...

I WANT IT ALL!"

I CAN'T BE.

BUT...

WHAT'S GOING ON?

AND WHO ARE YOU?

IS THAT A NEW ABILITY OF YOURS?!

WHY DO YOU LOOK LIKE THAT?!

IS THAT REALLY YOU, MR. GREED ?!

I ASKED YOU WHO THE HELL YOU ARE.

ZA!!

!

...?

AH...

...

UM...

DON'T TELL ME YOU'VE FORGOTTEN YOUR FRIEND'S FACE?!

IT'S ME!! *BIDO*, REMEMBER?! FROM THE DEVIL'S NEST!!

DO YOU REMEMBER ME NOW ?!

YEAH, YEAH!

THAT'S RIGHT. WE WERE FRIENDS !

SPL

OK

SORRY

I THINK THAT'S THE *OLD* GREED YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT.

MR. GREED...

WE'RE FRIENDS...

LOOM

BUT...

I...

...DON'T KNOW YOU.

FWUMP

BUMP

ZAH

NOTHING PER-SONAL.

IT'S MY JOB TO KEEP OUT THE *VERMIN.*

ZING

ZA ZA

WHAT THE...?

KYECH!

DRO

GAGH

GEHOE

KOFF

!!!!!

WHA...?

!

WHAT A LOW-LIFE YOU'VE BECOME, GREED!

HEY HEY!

I'VE SEEN SOME DIRTY DEEDS IN XING, BUT KILLING YOUR OWN FRIEND IN COLD BLOOD— THAT'S PRETTY LOW.

DON'T YOU THINK?

THAT WASN'T...

...A FRIEND...

AAAH

AGH!

WHA

THEN WHAT ARE THESE MEMORIES?

ARE YOU TELLING ME THAT WHAT BIDO SAID WAS ALL A LIE?

THOSE ARE THE MEMORIES OF THE *OLD* GREED!!

NOT MINE!!

THEN WHY ARE YOU IN SUCH *PAIN*?!

IF YOU LET YOUR GUARD DOWN, MY SOUL IS GOING TO TAKE THIS BODY BACK.

GET AHOLD OF YOURSELF.

Woo

YOU CAN'T ERASE THE TRUTH !!

THOSE MEMORIES AREN'T A PART OF ME ANYMORE!!!

FATHER PURIFIED ME! HE GOT RID OF THE OLD GREED'S MEMORIES!

FRIEND-SHIP ISN'T SOMETHING YOU CAN JUST FORGET!

IT'S A BOND BETWEEN SPIRITS, AND THAT'S SOMETHING YOU CAN NEVER WIPE AWAY!!

YOU HEAR THAT?! THEIR SOULS ARE CRYING OUT!!

GREED !!

YOU TURNED YOUR BACK ON YOUR *REAL* FAMILY— YOUR KINDRED SPIRITS!!

YOU *GAVE THEM UP!!*

ZAH

ZAH

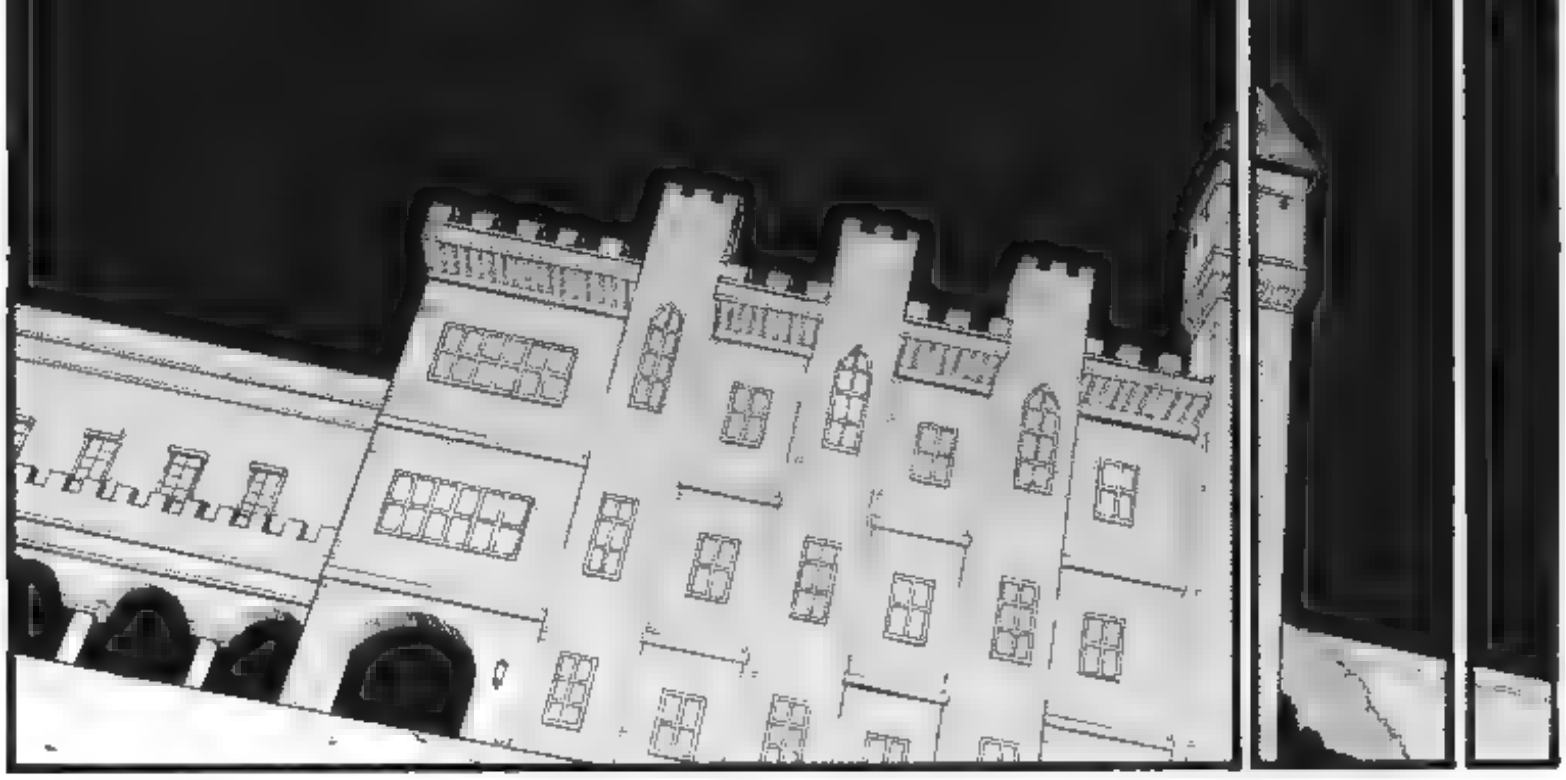
ZAH

ZAH

Jhi

THAT'S WHY YOU'RE NOT WORTHY OF BEING CALLED "GREED," THE SELFISH BASTARD WHO WILL STOP AT NOTHING TO GET WHAT HE WANTS!!

AAAA



KREEAK
SKFF...

POW
!
SLAM!

BLAM
WHAK BLAM
WHAT'S GOING ON?

WHO ?!

GA

GAK IN

STAY BACK.

FATHER !!

DAR- LING !!

WHAT'S HAPPEN-ING TO ME, WRATH?

STRAIN

STRAIN

THESE MEMO-RIES...

ZA

ZA

ZA

IT WON'T GO AWAY!

ZA

THEY WON'T GO AWAY !!

MY HEAD FEELS LIKE IT'S GOING TO EXPLODE !!

STRAIN

KREEAK

ZA

AND YOU...

YOU'RE THERE TOO, KING BRADLEY.

NNOO...

ZAH

WHAT DID YOU DO TO MY GUYS?

GREED ...

YOU SHOULD HAVE LEFT THE PAST WHERE IT BELONGS— *DEAD AND BURIED!!*

SHUV

STO AIN

TONK

SHF

KLATTA

SL

TMP

IGE

WHI SH

BOH

GR

AB

ROF

ISH

FW

KRASH

AH

VAM

SP

!!

SH

SNAP!

KUH!

AH

LEAP

KRA SH!

ARE YOU HURT ?!

ARE YOU AND YOUR FAMILY ALL RIGHT?!

ZWOO...

TMP TMP TMP

SIR !!

DA SH

ZU...

THAT WAS?

HE WAS VERY SKILLED.

DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.

I'M SORRY, SIR. THE GUARDS HAD NO CHANCE.

...

UR...

UH...

NGGH...

SNEAK SNEAK

FROM HERE WE CAN STAY CLOSE TO CENTRAL CITY AND ATTEMPT TO CONTACT COLONEL MUSTANG.

THE HOMUNCULI KNOW ABOUT IT TOO, BUT I DOUBT THEY'LL GUESS THAT WE'VE COME BACK HERE!

ZSH ZSH

WHERE ARE WE?

IT'S A HIDEOUT WE USED ONCE BEFORE.

EMPTY

AND HASN'T BEEN FOR AGES.

THERE'S NOBODY HERE!!

WH AK

I KNOW *EXACTLY* HOW MY BROTHER THINKS.

AL WILL DEF-INITELY BE HERE...

WE HURRIED ALL THIS WAY FOR NOTHING.

SOME BIG BROTHER YOU ARE!!

SHH!

snif snif

KR EE AK

SQUEE SQUEE

!

Sneak...

wap wap

SQUEE

SQUEE

SQUEE

squee squee

Squee

JUMP
sauee...

WUMP
LIN !!

SO...
...HUN-GRY..

W-WAIT, WHICH IS IT?
GREED ?

IT'S LIN.
DRAGGED

I'M SAVED!
I NEVER THOUGHT I'D RUN INTO FRIENDS IN A PLACE LIKE THIS.

THERE GO ALL OUR EMER-GENCY PRO-VISIONS.

YOU EAT WAY TOO MUCH AS USUAL, IDIOT.

I FEEL WHOLE AGAIN! THANKS! THAT HIT THE SPOT!

OH YEAH !!

AND I'M HEIN-KEL.

I'M DARI-US.

GORI...

ARE THESE YOUR FRIENDS ?

YOU'RE SAYING IT LIKE IT'S NO BIG DEAL!!

YEAH, HE'S A HO-MUN-

I'M A HOMUN-CULUS.

UH... IT'S HARD TO EXPLAIN ...

SO WHO'S THIS GUY ?

WE'RE EX-MILITARY, BUT SOMEHOW WE ENDED UP TRAVELING WITH THIS KID.

UH... IT'S A LONG STORY, BUT IT'S TRUE.

A HOMUNCULUS... SERIOUSLY?

AT THAT MOMENT, I TOOK ADVANTAGE OF HIS CONFUSION AND REGAINED CONTROL OF MY BODY.

GREED SPLIT FROM THE REST OF THE HOMUNCULI.

You really startled me.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

HHEY! YOU CAN'T JUST— WAIT!!

WHAT?

GREED IS COMING BACK...

ZAH

RRGH!!

I WAS LOOKING FOR A HIDING PLACE CLOSE TO CENTRAL CITY AND CAME BACK HE—

UH- OH...

WHAT'S WRONG?

CUT IT OUT!

BONK BONK BONK BONK

HANG IN THERE! DON'T LOSE THE FIGHT! STAY WITH US!

...!!

...MAYBE IF YOU AND YOUR BROTHER JUMP INTO THAT PORTAL, YOU'LL BE ABLE TO REGAIN YOUR ORIGINAL BODIES!

THIS IS JUST A HUNCH, BUT...

LISTEN, ED! THEIR SO-CALLED "FATHER" THAT WE MET BENEATH CENTRAL CITY...

...WILL OPEN THE PORTAL ON THE *DAY OF RECKON-ING!*

...A TOLL IS REQUIRED TO OPEN THE PORTAL...

THAT MIGHT BE TRUE BUT...

WAIT A SEC...

NGGH!!

ZAH!!

THAT'S —

THIS "DAY OF RECKONING"— DO YOU KNOW WHEN IT IS?

WHY IS HE OPENING THE PORTAL?

DID YOU GIVE LANFAN...

...MY MESSAGE ?

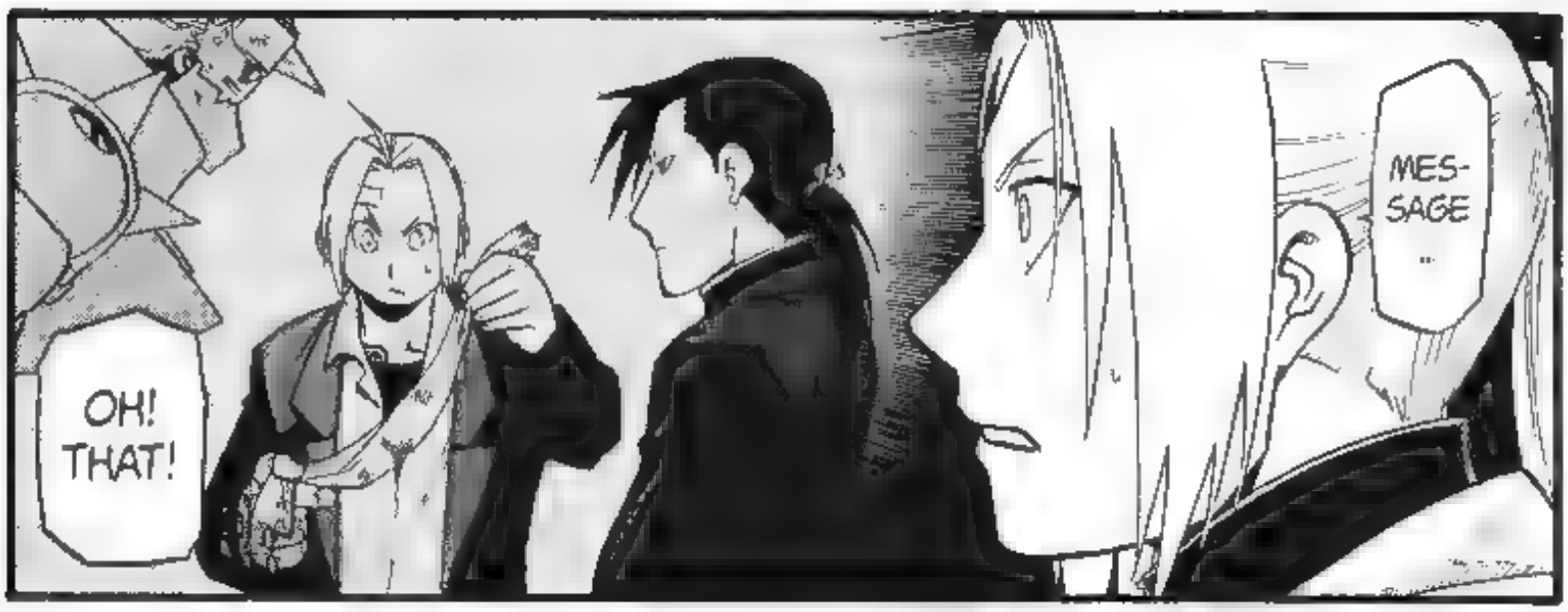
THE MES-SAGE ...

?

LIN?! HEY!!

OH NO...

DAMN IT... NOT YET...


OH! THAT!
MES-SAGE ...

GOOD.
I'M GLAD.
I DON'T KNOW WHERE SHE IS RIGHT NOW, BUT...
LAN-FAN'S SAFE!
AL GAVE IT TO HER!

..LON-GER..
CAN'T HOLD OUT MUCH ...
SORRY... HIS WILL IS GETTING STRON-GER..
RRGH..
LIN ?!

DAMMIT! THAT XING PRINCE DOESN'T KNOW HOW TO KEEP HIS MOUTH SHUT.

!

UGH...

YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT.

YOU'RE GREED?

TCH!

YOU'RE JUST GOING TO LET US GO?

HUH? WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

SEE YOU AROUND, KID.

H-HEY!

DON'T BOTHER, OLD MAN.

YOU CAN'T KILL ME WITH THAT.

ALL THESE MEMORIES CAME BACK.. I ATTACKED BRADLEY. MUST HAVE LOST MY MIND!

DIDN'T THE PRINCE TELL YOU? I'VE ***SPLIT*** FROM TEAM HOMUNCULUS.

FROM NOW ON, I'M JUST LOOKING OUT FOR NUMBER ONE.

SEE YA.

DO YOU HONESTLY THINK I'D GO CRAWLING BACK THERE AFTER THAT? I'M CUT OFF.

DO YOU WANT TO BE ***ALLIES?***

WHY YOU ...

BIG DEAL! THESE TWO MEAT-HEADS ARE *CHIMERAS!*

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

I'M A *HOMUNCULUS.*

HUMPH!

IF YOU HAVE NOWHERE TO GO, YOU SHOULD COME WITH US.

YOU'RE WAY OUT OF LINE, KID, INVITING FREAKS LIKE HIM TO JOIN UP WITH US.

WAIT A SECOND... AM I THE ONLY *NORMAL* ONE HERE? I GUESS *I'M* THE ODD ONE OUT.

You just told him our secret like it was nothin'!

I'M NOT ABOUT TO START FUSSING OVER WHO'S HUMAN AND WHO'S NOT.

IF YOU GET TOO COCKY, WE'LL DITCH YOU AND GO OFF ON OUR OWN, BRAT!

THE ONLY REASON WE CAME WITH YOU IS BECAUSE WE WERE FED UP WITH KIMBLEE!

THAT'S A GOOD ONE!

ALLIES, HUH?

heh heh

AL-LIES...

EVERY-THING IN THIS WORLD IS MINE!

DON'T MAKE ME LAUGH!

squee squee squee

THE ONLY WAY I'LL JOIN WITH YOU IS IF YOU AGREE TO BE MY *HENCHMEN.*

HE NEVER LIES.

HE MIGHT CHANGE HIS MIND AND TELL THE ENEMY ABOUT OUR PLANS.

ARE WE JUST GONNA LET HIM GO?

DON'T WORRY.

HUH...

THAT GUY WITH THE BEARD WILL OPEN THE PORTAL...

..."THE DAY OF RECKONING"?

THERE ARE SO MANY SOULS INSIDE ME, BUT EVER SINCE MY MEMORY GOT CONFUSED, I'VE FELT SO... **EMPTY**.

I WONDER WHY?

...ALL ALONE.

I'M...

THEN WHY DON'T YOU JOIN WITH ED AND THE OTHERS?

I'LL TAKE US BACK TO XING AND BECOME EMPEROR—THEN YOU'LL BE RID OF THAT FEELING OF EMPTINESS!
IF YOU'RE JUST GOING TO STAND AROUND AND MOPE, THEN YOU SHOULD GIVE ME BACK THIS BODY.

HAH! SCREW THAT!
YOU'RE STILL THINK-ING SMALL!

LORD OF A COUNTRY, HUH?

PRETTY GRAND, RIGHT?

GRIN
IF WE'RE GOING TO DO THAT...

...WHY NOT SHOOT FOR ***LORD OF THE ENTIRE WORLD*** INSTEAD?

HEY, LIN!

WAIT UP!

YOU AGAIN? WHAT DO YOU WANT?

HEY!

WAIT!

I'LL BE YOUR HENCH-MAN!

AND I ALREADY TOLD YOU, MY NAME IS *GREED*.

YEAH, YEAH. I DON'T CARE ANYMORE WHETHER YOU'RE GREED OR LIN.

I'LL CALL YOU *GRIN* FOR SHORT.

"GRIN"? THAT'S RIDICU-LOUS.

...HUH?

DON'T GET A BIG HEAD, BEAN SPROUT!! RUNT!! DUST SPECK!!

WHO'RE YOU CALLING "SHEEP"?!

DON'T MAKE DE-CISIONS FOR US, YOU LITTLE SNOT!!

POW BAM THOK

WHAT?! I'M NOT SMALL! IT'S THE WORLD THAT'S TOO BIG!!

WHA?!

I'M TELLING YOU THAT I AGREE TO BE YOUR HENCH-MAN.

WHICH MEANS THAT THESE TWO GUYS WHO FOLLOW ME AROUND LIKE SHEEP WILL ALSO BE YOUR HENCHMEN!

AT THIS POINT, IT'S NO BIG DEAL FOR ME TO SIT UP AND WAG MY TAIL!!

NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT, THE MOMENT I DECIDED TO BECOME A DOG OF THE MILITARY, I GAVE UP ANY PRIDE THAT I MAY HAVE HAD ANYWAY!

IT'S A GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY!

I CAN'T AFFORD TO BE SWEPT AWAY BY MY EMOTIONS AND LET THIS CHANCE SLIP THROUGH MY FINGERS, CAN I?

PLUS ...

HA HA HA!! INTER-ESTING !!

HA HA!

ARE YOU SURE YOU WON'T RE-GRET IT?!

BEING MY HENCHMAN MEANS THAT YOU'LL HAVE TO LIVE IN THE SHADOWS.

I AC-CEPT !!

DON'T INSULT ME!! MY WHOLE LIFE'S BEEN A LESSON ON REGRET!

THAT'S WHAT'S HE RUDY ABOUT

OH!

RUSH!

HEY, THAT'S PRETTY COOL.

I'M A LION.

SO YOU'RE CHIMERAS.

I'M A GORILLA.

I DON'T CARE WHO WE FOLLOW AS LONG AS I GET FED.

GROAN

ALL RIGHT, WHATEVER.

THEN YOU GUYS ARE MY HENCHMEN TOO!

LIVE IN THE SHAD-OWS, HUH?

CLNCH

I GUESS I WON'T BE SEEING AL AND WINRY FOR A WHILE THEN.

I STILL HAVE WINRY'S EAR-RINGS.

Rust!...

YOU SHOULD RETIRE, FATHER.

I'M MERELY SUGGESTING THAT YOU MAKE ME THE HEAD OF TH S FAMILY SO THAT YOU CAN SPEND YOUR REMAINING DAYS IN LEISURE.

HAVE YOU COME HOME AFTER ALL THIS TIME JUST TO TELL ME THAT, OLIVIER?

THAT WOULD ONLY *TARNISH* THE ARMSTRONG FAMILY NAME.

THAT COWARD?

I PLAN TO MAKE ALEX THE HEAD OF THE FAMILY AFTER ME.

WHY NOT LEAVE EVERYTHING TO ME AND TAKE A VACATION ABROAD?

...

AH, ALEX.

YOU'RE JUST IN TIME.

IF YOU'D TOLD ME THAT YOU WERE COMING, I WOULD HAVE...

SISTER!

YOU'VE RETURNED HOME!

HUH?

BATTLE YOUR SISTER.

OLIVIER HAS ASKED ME TO RETIRE AND GO AWAY.

WHAT ?!!

WHA ?!

ARE YOU FINE WITH THAT, OLIVIER?

WILL MAKE WHO-EVER WINS THE HEAD OF THIS FAMILY.

PERFECT.

RRRGH...

...

SISTER, WHAT A *RUDE* THING TO SAY TO FATHER!!

THEN I AGREE !!

RR IP

Retort!!

YOU'LL SEE THE DEPTH OF YOUR INEXPE-RIENCE!!

BRING IT ON, ALEX!!

I WILL BATTLE YOU WITH ALL MY HEART, SOUL AND MUSCLE!!

LOOM

!!

YA!

SMAK
Take that!
BANG
I HEAR THAT THEY HAVE DELICIOUS FOOD THERE.
WHAT ABOUT XING, HONEY?
KA-POW
Not by far.
flip flip
KRASH
Is that all you got?
WHAKA
Grrr!!
THOKA
WELL THEN, WHERE SHOULD WE GO FOR OUR VACATION?
WHAKA
Wait... Sister!!
WHAM
HAVE A SAFE JOURNEY, MASTER ARM-STRONG.
Of course.
SMAK
Are you trying to kill me?!
YES, FATHER.
BA
M
No way!!
In mercy
COME ALONG, CATH-ERINE
GOOD, WE'LL GO THERE THEN
WHAM
KERSLAM
200000000!
KRASH
HOW ABOUT AN ELE-PHANT?
THEY'RE BIG AND STRONG!
ha ha ha
tee hee hee
WHAT SHOULD WE BRING BACK FOR MY BROTHER AND SISTER?
Oof!
KRASH
HANG IN THERE, ALEX.
BANG
SHINK
IT'S DECIDED.
TWIRL
TWIRL
TWIRL
KREE

NGH ...

SIS ...

TURN

GROAN!!

THE ARMSTRONG FAMILY INHERITANCE IS NOW MINE!

AND IS IT BECAUSE OF WHAT YOU SAW THAT YOU SENT FATHER AND THE OTHERS ABROAD SO THEY COULDN'T BE MADE HOSTAGES?

...

I'VE SEEN THE SITUATION WITH MY OWN EYES AND HAVE MADE MY DECISION.

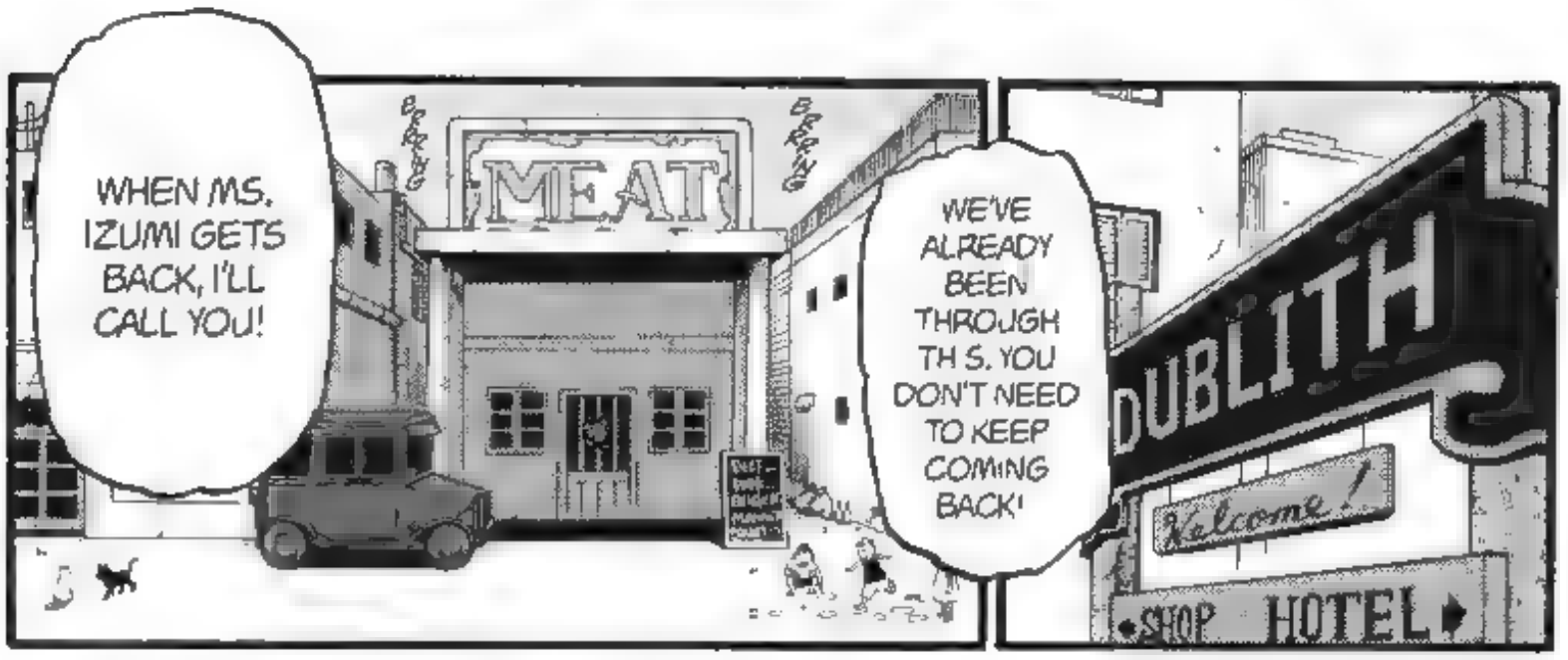
IS IT TRUE? HAVE YOU ALLIED YOURSELF WITH HIGH COMMAND?

H-HOW COULD YOU...? THOSE PEOPLE... THEY'RE...

THIS HOUSE IS MINE NOW.

GET OUT, COWARD.

KLATTA
SLAM


WHEN MS. IZUMI GETS BACK, I'LL CALL YOU!
MEAT
WE'VE ALREADY BEEN THROUGH TH S. YOU DON'T NEED TO KEEP COMING BACK!
DUBLITH
Welcome!
SHOP
HOTEL

HELLO, THANK YOU FOR CALLING CURTIS'S MEATS!
OH! YES, YOUR ORDER IS READY!

YEAH, YEAH! I WISH JUST ONCE YOU WOULD COME AS A CUSTOMER!
KLANG KLANG
WE'LL BE BACK.

BRRRING BRRRING BRRRING
I'M RUNNING THIS STORE ALL BY MYSELF RIGHT NOW, AND IF YOU GUYS KEEP SHOWING UP, I CAN'T DO MY JOB!!

klang
CLUNK

MEAT

OH, THAT'S RIGHT. I HAVE A MESSAGE FROM ALPHONSE AND A MAN NAMED HOHENHEIM.

UH-HUH.

THOSE GUYS FROM THE MILITARY WERE HERE JUST NOW.

SORRY ABOUT THAT

HMM... I SEE.

"PROM-ISED DAY," HUH?

THAT SOUNDS SERIOUS.

Boom Klang

JAMES! CALL HEAD-QUARTERS...

DAMN! THEY'VE ALL BEEN HIT!!

SPIN

JAME-AAGH!

zushzush

HUH ?!

ARGH

FUMP

JUST ONE!!

HOW MANY OF THEM ARE THERE?!

I DON'T KNOW !!

IS IT DRACHMA ?!

JUST ONE?! WHO THE HELL IS IT?!

BLAM BLAM

HQ! THIS IS CHECK-POINT P!!

WE'RE UNDER ATTACK !

HYOOOOOO

SIGH

HYOOOOOO

I'M A HOUSE-WIFE. ♡

CHECK-POINT P, RESPOND!

YOU'RE BREAKING UP! REPEAT!

WHO IS YOUR ATTACK-ER?!

WHAT SHE SA.D.

AN ATTACK ON THE MOUNTAIN PATROL SQUAD BY AN UNKNOWN FEMALE?

KLAK KLAK KLAK KLAK KLAK KLAK KLAK KLAK

IT'S EXACTLY LIKE THE INCIDENT 20 YEARS AGO.

WHAT BAD LUCK FOR THIS TO HAPPEN WHEN MAJOR GENERAL ARMSTRONG IS AWAY...

WELL, IF IT ISN'T THE ISHBALAN OFFICER WITH THE DARK GLASSES AND SIDEBURNS AND THE BIG GUY WITH THE MOHAWK.

YOU BOTH LOOK EXACTLY AS THEY DESCRIBED YOU.

KLAK

KREEAK

SHE'S GOING TO KILL US WHEN SHE GETS BACK, SIR.

OH! AND I'VE BROUGHT YOU A MESSAGE FROM AL.

I'M JUST A HOUSE-WIFE THAT WAS PASSING BY.

WHO THE HELL ARE YOU?

I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU GUYS TO APPEAR.

THE "PROM-ISED DAY"...

WE NEED TO TALK ABOUT THE "PROMISED DAY."

IT'S PRIVATE, YOU KNOW?

HOTEL

EAST CITY 3-15

MY MY MY!

..YES, THAT'S RIGHT, LT. GENERAL GRAMAN.

GRIN

THINGS ARE GETTING INTEREST-ING.

THAT'S PERFECT.

RUB RUB

THE "PROMISED DAY".

POW

BLAM

BLAM

BLAM

BLAM

kachock

BLAM

SACK!

SPANK

Hey!

HI, REBECCA! YOU'RE LOOKING AS FINE AS USUAL!

YOU'RE GOOD FRIENDS WITH LT. HAWKEYE, AREN'T YOU?

LT. GENERAL GRAMAN, WHAT ARE YOU DOING ?!!

?

HA HA HA HA. NEVER LET YOUR GUARD DOWN ON THE BATTLEFIELD.

LONG TIME NO SEE, REBECCA.

RUFF

WOO WOOO

YOO-HOO, RIZA!

HOW'VE YOU BEEN?

THAT'S WHY IT'S BEEN DECIDED NOT TO HAVE THE TRAINING SESSION UP NORTH THIS YEAR.

YOU PROBABLY HEARD ABOUT THAT LITTLE BORDER SKIRMISH WITH DRACHMA A LITTLE WHILE AGO?

THE ANNUAL NORTH VS. EAST TRAINING SESSION HAS BEEN POSTPONED UNTIL THE NEXT SEASON.

Yawn!

WE'RE GONNA BE SO BUSY IN THE SPRING, I'VE GOT TO TAKE AS MUCH LEAVE AS I CAN NOW!

HMM ...

ONCE EVERYONE'S RECOVERED, THEY'LL HOLD THE NEXT SESSION IN THE EAST AREA.

I THINK I HAVE MORE DAYS OFF THAN WHEN I WAS WORKING UNDER THE COLONEL.

HERE AND THERE.

RIZA, HAVE YOU GOTTEN ANY DAYS OFF?

CAN YOU STOP SAYING THINGS THAT MIGHT MAKE ME LOOK BAD, 2ND LT. REBECCA KATARINA?

HOW DID YOU SCAM YOUR WAY INTO THAT JOB, LT. RIZA HAWKEYE?

YOU WENT STRAIGHT FROM THE COLONEL TO THE PRESI-DENT, HUH?

HE'S GOOD FOR NOTHING! SERIOUSLY!!

THAT DIRTY OLD MAN?! WHAT A HEADACHE! HE NEVER DOES HIS JOB!!

WHAT ABOUT YOU? MAJOR GENERAL GRAMAN SEEMS TO REALLY LIKE YOU.

DON'T...

HE'S MALE. ALL RIGHT -

SIP

INTRODUCE ME TO A GOOD MAN FROM CENTRAL CITY!! A GOOD MAN!!

HERE.

OH, AND SAY HI TO 2ND LT. HAVOC FOR ME!!

OKAY, OKAY. HANG IN THERE.

I'M GONNA FIND ME A GOOD MAN AND QUIT THIS CRUMMY JOB!!

YOU JUST WAIT !!

CENTRAL STATION

Kpang Kpang

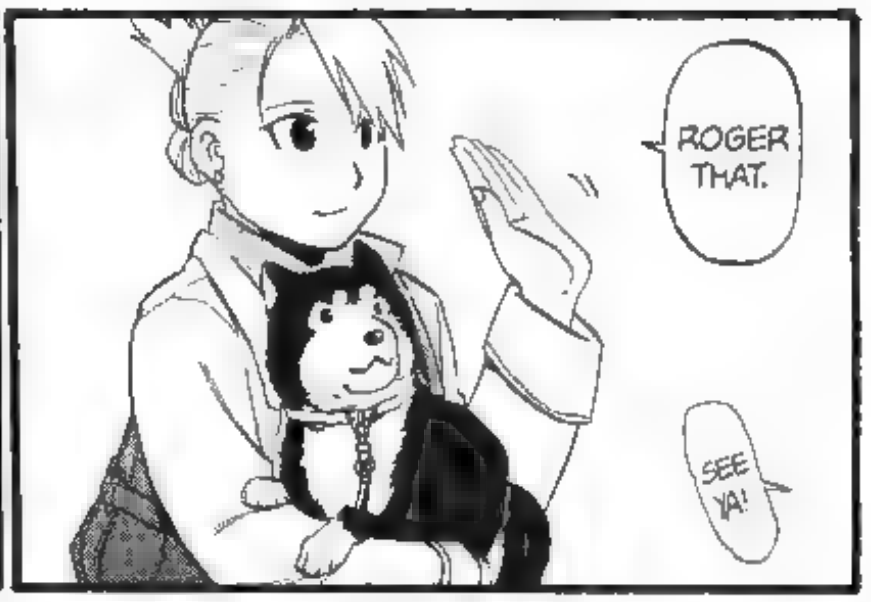
CHOKE CHOKE

YELP! YELP!

HAYATE!! HOW CAN YOU PUT UP WITH SUCH A STINGY, COLD-HEARTED MASTER?!

YOUR TRAIN'S ARRIVING SOON, ISN'T IT?

CHOKE


ROGER THAT.
SEE YA!

FWIP

ONCE MY CONDITION IS MORE STABLE, THEY PLAN ON MOVING ME TO ANOTHER HOSPITAL BACK EAST.

IT'S STILL EARLY. MAYBE I SHOULD PAY HIM A VISIT.

HMM ...
"SAY HI TO 2ND LT. HAVOC," HUH?

IT'LL BE EASIER ON MY FAMILY IF I'M CLOSER TO MY PARENTS' HOUSE.

REALLY? IT'LL BE LONELY AROUND HERE WITHOUT YOU.

RE-BECCA SAYS HI.

OKEY-DOKEY. ♡

OH! THANK YOU! I'VE JUST RUN OUT!

HERE YOU GO. BUT ONLY ONE A DAY, OKAY?

THEN I WISH I WOULD'VE BROUGHT YOU A PROPER GIFT.

SQUEE

IF THE COLONEL COMES HERE, TELL HIM THAT I SA.D HELLO.

OH, LIEU-TEN-ANT ... HAVE YOU SEEN THE COLONEL LATELY?

NO. I SPOKE TO HIM BRIEFLY IN THE CAFE-TERIA. THAT'S ABOUT T.

SHIF

HEAR THAT, COLONEL?

MAYBE SHE KNEW YOU WERE HERE.

shut

klak klak klak klak klak klak klak

I SURE WILL.

..LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE NOT FEELING TOO VIGILANT.

Draaag

Yeah...

Mm...

YOU DIDN'T NEED TO HIDE, SIR.

OH, COME ON, SIR. THIS ONE'S GOT YOUR NAME ON IT.

CARE FOR A SMOKE, COLONEL?

NO, I DON'T...

BOTH OF JS ARE UNDER SURVEIL-LANCE FROM THE HIGHER-UPS.

MEETING EACH OTHER ON A PRIVATE BASIS WOULD ONLY MAKE THEM SUSPICIOUS. WE HAVE TO STAY VIGILANT.

rustl

I'LL JUST HAVE ONE... FOR OLD TIME'S SAKE.

ALL RIGHT.

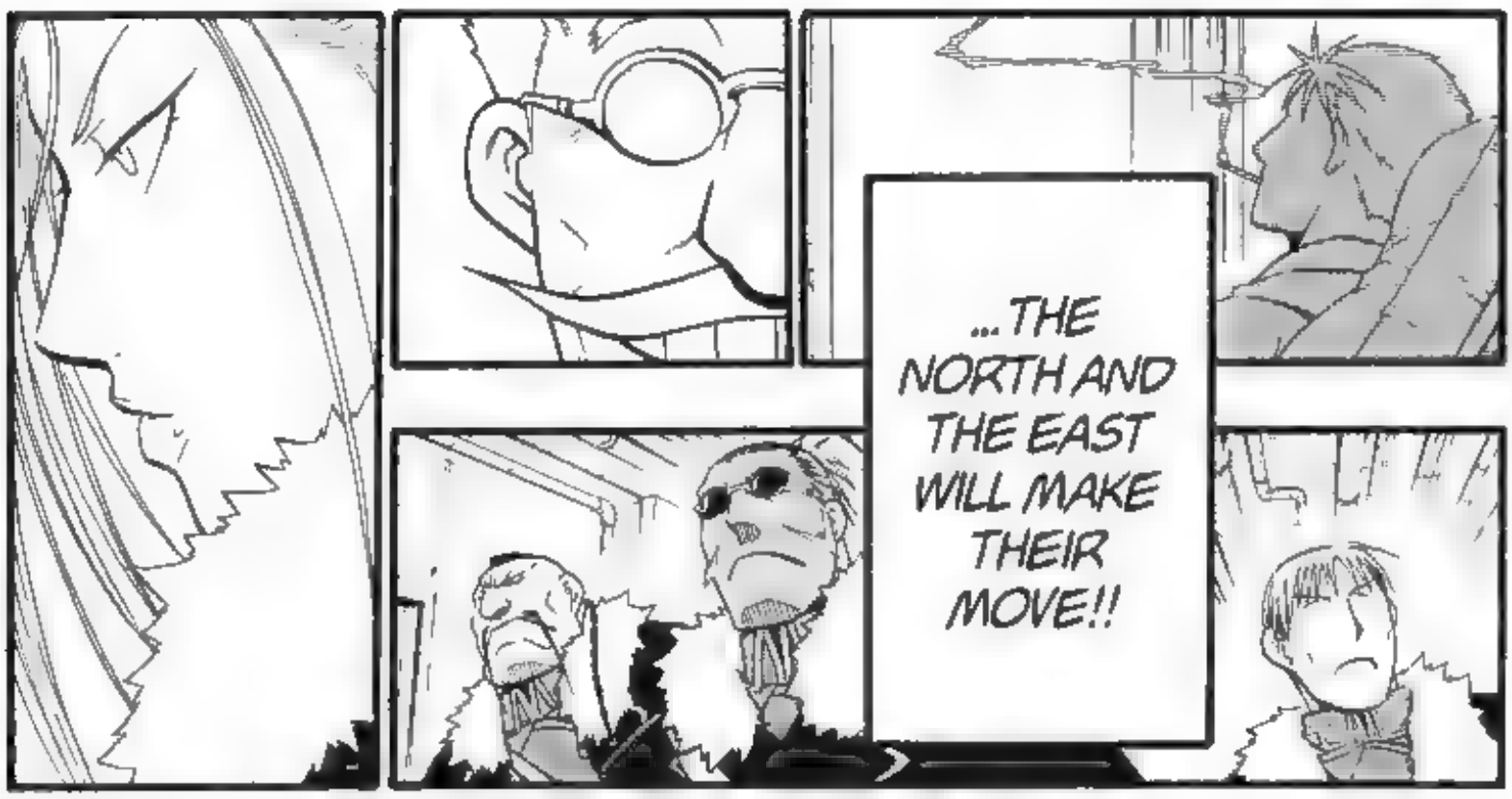
IT'S GOTTEN COLD IN CENTRAL CITY.

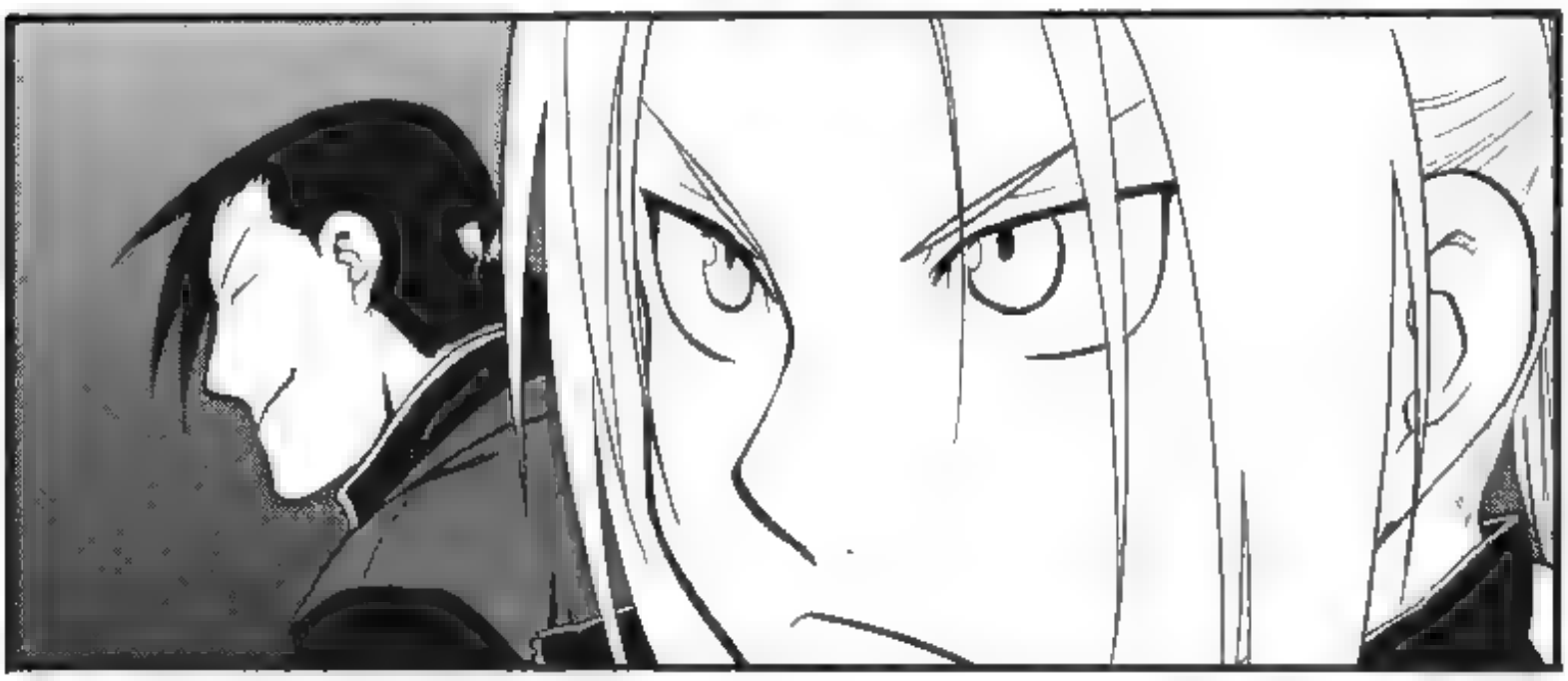
AFTER THE YEAR ENDS...

SNF

AFTER THE YEAR ENDS AND THE NEXT SEASON COMES...

...ON THE PROM-ISED DAY...





Chapter 83 The Promised Day

Fullmetal Alchemist 20

Special Thanks

Jun Tohko

Nono

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Noriko Tsubota

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Kazufumi Kaneko

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Kei Takanamazu

Big bro Yoichi Kamitono

Aiyaball Sensei

Michiko Shishido Sensei

My Editor,
Yuichi Shimomura

AND YOU!!

What if?

SO FROM NOW ON, I NEED TO THINK ABOUT ALL THE "WHAT IFS" IN THE WORLD AND LIVE MORE CAUTIOUSLY!
VERY WISE!
WOW, BIG BROTHER.
THE REASON I FAILED LAST VOLUME WAS BECAUSE DIDN'T THINK TO MYSELF, "WHAT IF KIMBLEE HAS ANOTHER PHILOS-OPHER'S STONE?"

WHAT IF I CAN'T FIT INTO ANY OF MY CLOTHES THAT FOLLOWING MORNING?
WHAT IF I GROW 30 CM WHILE M ASLEEP?
WHAT IF NO ONE RECOG-NIZES ME BECAUSE I GREW SO TALL?

DROOL
HERE, KITTY KITTY.
CATNIP
THIS GUY HAS TOTALLY LOST IT
WHAT IF THEY ALL START FIGHTING ONE ANOTHER OVER ME?
WHAT IF I INC TE A NATIONAL EMER-GENCY?
OH NO...
WHAT IF ALL THE WOMEN IN THE WORLD WON'T LEAVE ME ALONE BECAUSE OF MY HEIGHT, LARGE INCOME AND DEEP INTELLECT

The preparations have been made! The Promised Day is almost here... Ed, Hohenheim, Mustang and Scar head towards Central City for the Day of Reckoning. At last, the final battle is about to begin!!

When the Promised Day comes...

I WANT YOU AND AL TO COME BACK WITH YOUR ORIGINAL BODIES!!

I'LL DO ANYTHING TO MAKE THAT HAPPEN!!

YOU HAVE TO STOP THEM, ED!!

KREEAK

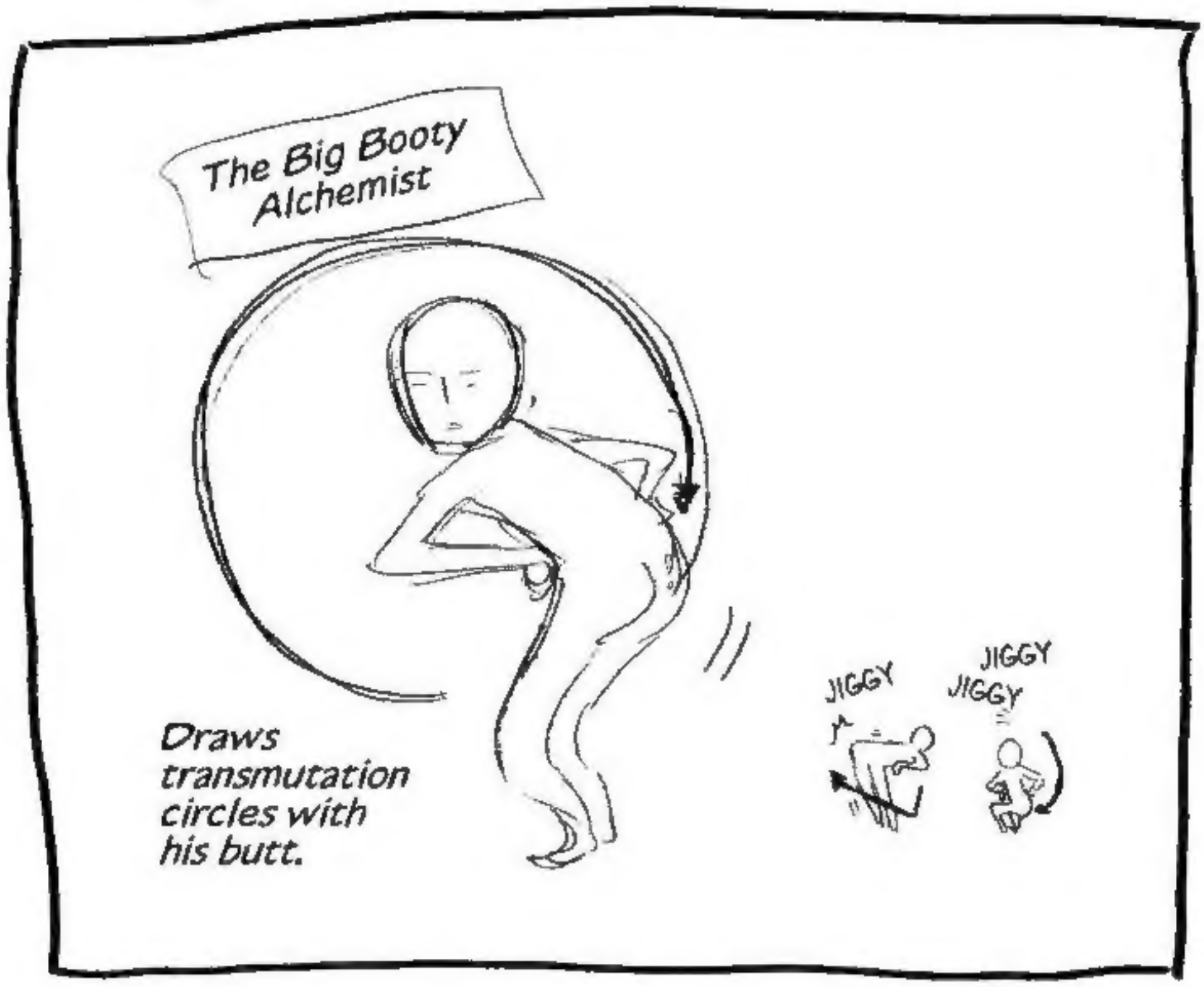
...who will ascend and who will be damned?!

Fullmetal Alchemist Volume 21

Fullmetal Alchemist Preview

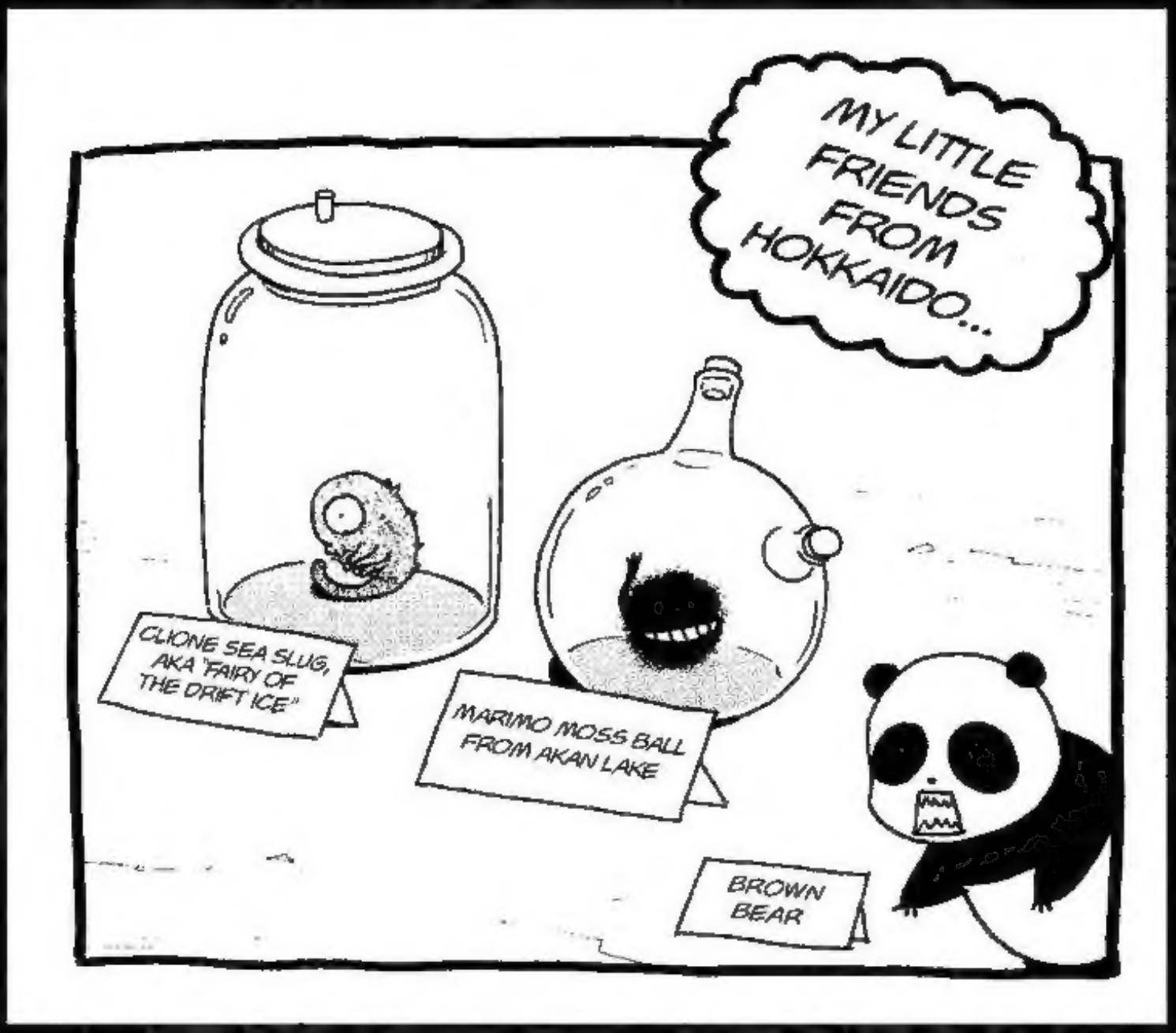
Fullmetal Alchemist 20

A rejected state alchemist character



I found this while cleaning out a drawer. Now the part of me that asks, "Why did you reject this idea?!!" and the part of me that says, "Of course I rejected it!!" are engaged in an epic battle.

—ARAKAWA


MY LITTLE FRIENDS FROM HOKKAIDO...
CLIONE SEA SLUG, AKA "FAIRY OF THE DRIFT ICE"
MARIMO MOSS BALL FROM AKAN LAKE
BROWN BEAR

FULLMETAL ALCHEMIST 20

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